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FISHER BUILDING

By ALBERT KAHN

IN designing the new Fisher Building, the architects were favored with an opportunity rare in many ways. The site selected for the building was on West Grand Boulevard, Detroit. It so happened that Second Boulevard has an offset at its junction with West Grand Boulevard, making it possible and highly desirable to place the main entrance and tower portion of the building directly on the axis of Second Boulevard, giving the structure the appearance of a terminal to this important thoroughfare. In the first sketches of the building, the tower portion was placed in the center of the facade. With further study of the problem, however, it became apparent that it would prove far more effective to place the tower off center but on the axis of Second Boulevard. The Fisher Building's commanding site is, therefore, an exceptionally happy one. It emphasizes the value in city planning, of providing occasional objective points and proper termini, as against the endless straight avenues and streets too common in practically every city in the United States.

What further made the opportunity a rare one were the facts that: first, the owners, imbued with a desire to erect a thoroughly high class building, did not make cost the prime consideration, they not only granted but encouraged the use of the finest materials throughout; second, by permitting the architects to engage the best talent as collaborators —the ablest of sculptors, modelers, decorators and craftsmen—the task was considerably lightened; and third, by selecting carefully the highest calibre of contractors, irrespective of their being low bidders, an all too rare condition was brought about in the construction of the building. Due to the hearty cooperation of owners, architects and contractors, the structure was completed in record time, with the quality of workmanship

MODELS OF SCULPTURED MOTIFS
EAGLE MOTIF MODELED BY DI LORENZO
AT LEFT OF TITLE, "AMERICA"
AT RIGHT OF TITLE, "PLENTY"
MODELS BY PROFESSOR G. R. MAROTI

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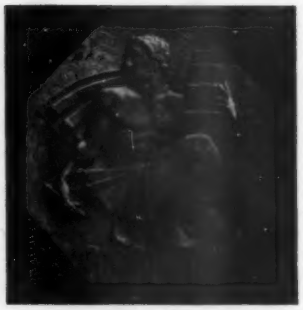
throughout of the highest. A bronze tablet now permanently placed on the wall of the arcade, bears evidence of the spirit which governed the erection of the building. The tablet reads as follows:

"Honor Alit Artes"

"In commemoration of the exemplary business ethics and zeal for fairness manifested by the Fisher Brothers and their associates in every relation with those who have striven in the creation of this building this tablet is presented by the Architects and all Contractors."

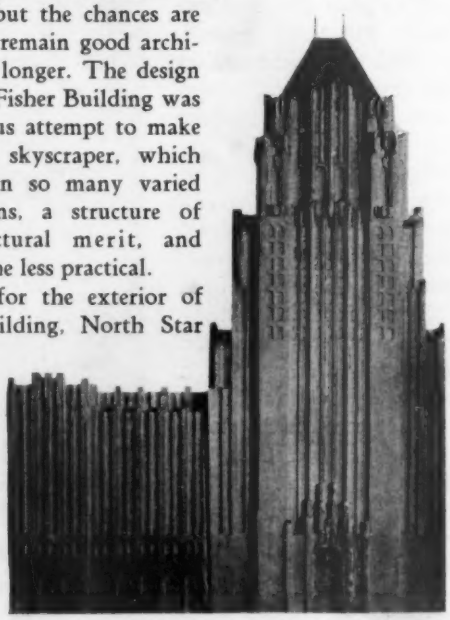
Even in earlier days, when specialization was not so general, the best results were obtained by concerted effort, through the collaboration of a group of able men. Today such collaboration is more necessary than ever. Without the assistance of men capable of executing what is in the mind of the directing architect, successful results are impossible. With the usual need for speed, so prevalent a condition in this country, the task of such assistants becomes more and more difficult; the greater, therefore, the credit due them when satisfactory results are achieved on a large project.

The building in its present state is only a portion of what the owners ultimately contemplate. A corresponding section is to be erected at the west end of the block and a central tower some fifty stories high is to dominate the group. When entirely completed, the building will contain a floor area larger than any now existing.



It became apparent in studying the exterior design that with the wall surface necessarily riddled with window openings any effect of solidity must be sought in the massing of planes, and grouping of openings, and interest must be created by the use of projecting and receding surfaces as well as in a picturesque skyline. Detail is then sparingly employed, but strong vertical lines play an important part in the design. While a new note is aimed at, this was considered much less important than that the composition be sane and the detail restrained. That modern work served for inspiration is not to be denied, indeed it is frankly admitted; but the radically different, exaggerated forms, so much used today, which suggest the seeking for originality for mere originality's sake, were carefully shunned. When all is said and done, only such work continues to satisfy that has for its root familiarity with, and study of, the best that has been achieved. If to this be added a certain amount of individuality and good taste, of which the designer must necessarily be possessed, if above all there is sincere effort, the result may not prove as striking or modernistic as some, but the chances are it will remain good architecture longer. The design of the Fisher Building was a serious attempt to make of the skyscraper, which has seen so many varied solutions, a structure of architectural merit, and none the less practical.

As for the exterior of the building, North Star



STUDY OF FISHER BUILDING DESIGN IN CLAY

MODELS BY DI LORENZO FOR PILASTER ORNAMENTS ARE SHOWN IN UPPER CORNERS OF PAGE

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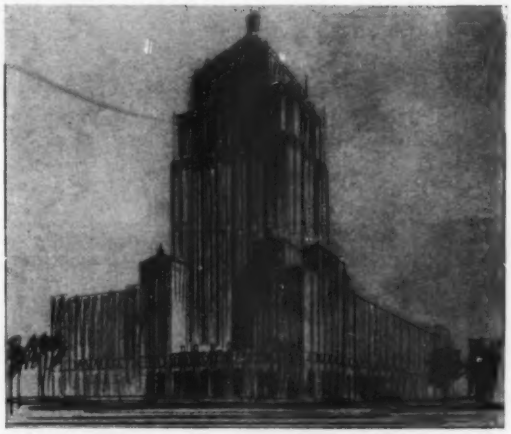

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A SERIES OF PROGRESSIVE SKETCHES SHOWING VARIOUS STAGES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DESIGN OF THE FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.—ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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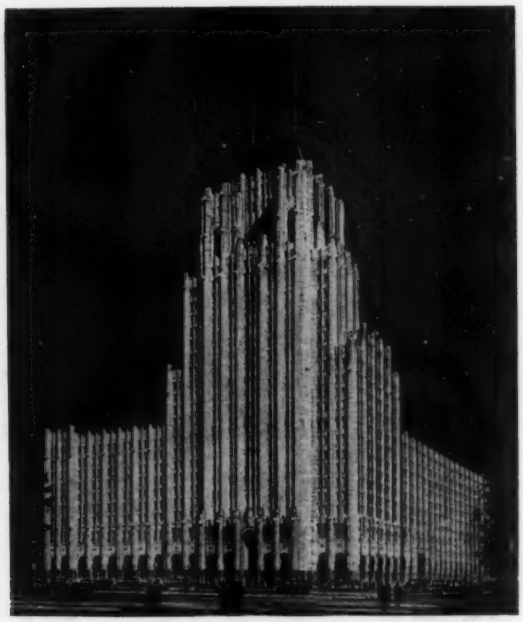

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A SERIES OF PROGRESSIVE SKETCHES SHOWING VARIOUS STAGES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DESIGN OF THE FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.—ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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A SERIES OF PROGRESSIVE SKETCHES SHOWING VARIOUS STAGES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DESIGN OF THE FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.—ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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polished granite from Minnesota was used for the three lower floors. Even the ornamental work is polished, whereby the contrast between polished and unpolished granite is avoided. Small parts of the granite ornaments are touched up with gold leaf which adds a certain sparkle. Beaver Dam marble was used for the superstructure. The roof of the tower is of semi-glazed dull green terra cotta with cresting and finials. Certain details of the roof have been gilded for decorative purposes.

Three stories of shops face both boulevards, opening also on to the arcades which parallel both West Grand and Second Boulevards and extend through the three floors. The shop windows on one side of this arcade are balanced by show cases, those on the opposite side to be used by the second and third floor shops. Above the shops are offices, opening from a central corridor. The office portion of the West Grand Boulevard section is restricted to general offices, while that facing Second Boulevard is reserved for doctors and dentists. Separate groups of elevators serve the two sections: the one is entered from West Grand, the other from Second Boulevard. In the upper floors of the tower section Messrs. Fisher have their own offices.

A garage facing Lothrop Avenue, housing about 1,000 cars, is attached to the office building and provided with entrances from every office floor. The plan of the garage is of a particular type which permits of parking cars without in any way blocking the travel lanes. An especially interesting feature in the construction of the garage is the banking of the ramps at the turns, the plan for which was scientifically determined by General Motors' engineers at their proving grounds where full size models were constructed for the purpose. The results have warranted the work and time spent.

A moving picture theatre seating twenty-eight hundred persons occupies the center portion of the lower part of the building. A section of the arcade, which connects with a special lobby opening off from Second Boulevard, is enlarged to serve as a

Photo by Drix Duryea

A BRIDGE IN THE ARCADE

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lobby to the theatre. This lobby is treated with wall panels of Mexican onyx set within golden veined St. Genevieve, and bronze. The lighting fixtures in this lobby play an important part in the design and so does the modeled and painted ceiling done in gold, silver and blue. The design of the theatre itself was entrusted to Messrs. Graven and Mayger, architects.

A lavish use of marble has been made in the arcade extending to the third floor line, at which springs the barrel vaulted ceiling done in plaster and richly painted with decorations which, though of modernistic trend, are restrained, architectural, rich and colorful. A wealth of detail is employed which therefore invites more than passing examination. As yet, the lighting fixtures (greatly needed, and in process of manufacture) are missing. These fixtures will materially enhance the effect of the arcade, for they will lend a brilliance to the interior not attainable by mere indirect lighting.

It is thus with a sense of deep appreciation that here is recorded our firm's obligation to Professor Geza Maroti, of Budapest, who not only modeled the ornamental work about the main entrance but designed and supervised the color decorations in the arcade, and also in the banking room; to Thomas Di Lorenzo, of Detroit, who executed the latter in the record time of only two months; to Messrs. Ricci and Zari, of New York, who modeled the exterior ornaments, other than the main entrance doorway; to Anthony Di Lorenzo, of New York, who prepared the models for most of the exterior and interior ornamental bronze work; also to Corrado Parducci, of Detroit, who furnished models for some of the bronze and all of the plaster ornaments.

Reference has already been made to the splendid spirit of the entire force of contractors and employees, all of whom took such exceptional pride in their connection with the work. An especial word of commendation and appreciation is due the efforts of those who handled the work in the

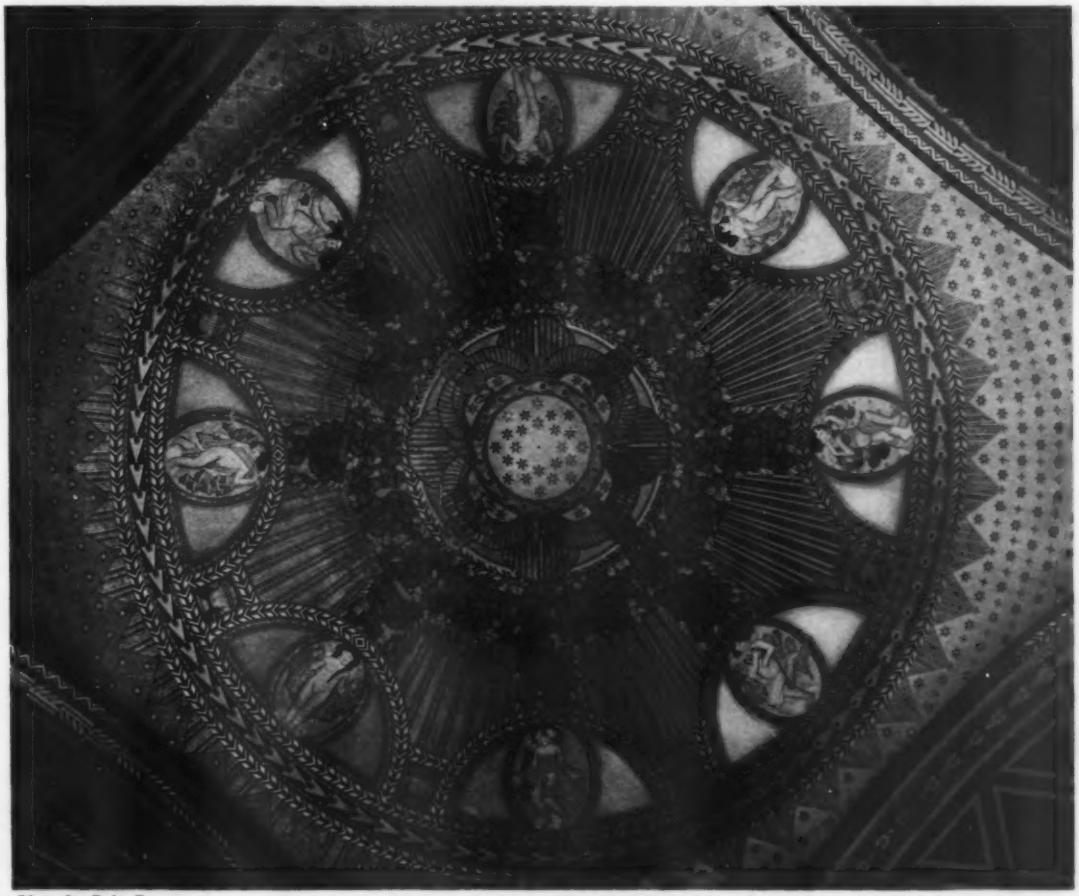

Photo by Drix Duryea

CEILING AT ARCADE INTERSECTION

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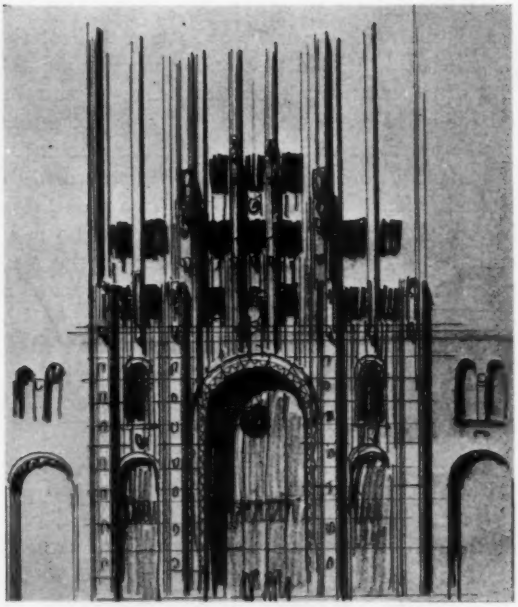

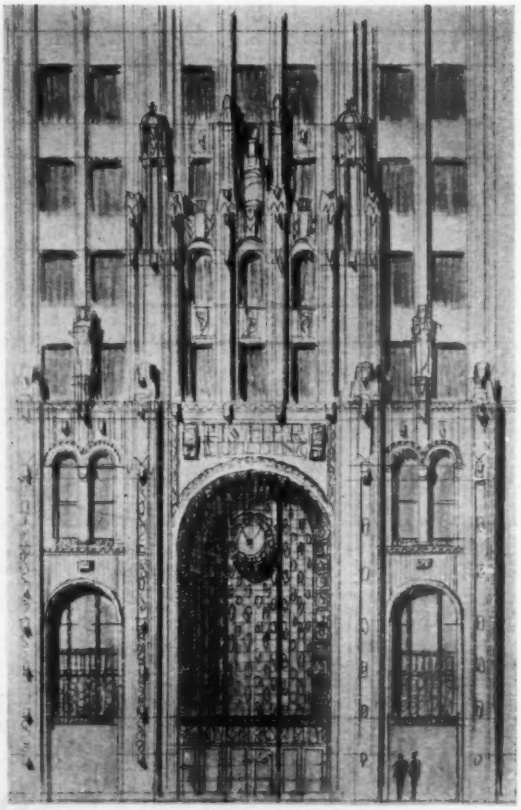

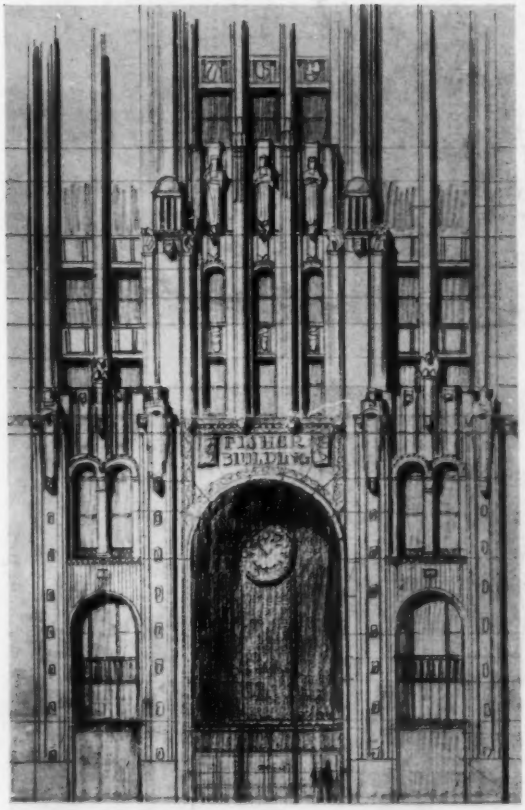

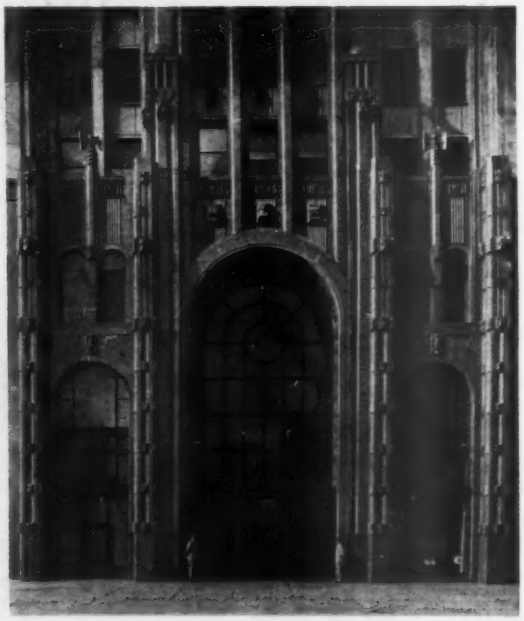

STUDIES AND FINAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE GRAND BOULEVARD ENTRANCE, FISHER BUILDING DETROIT, MICH.—ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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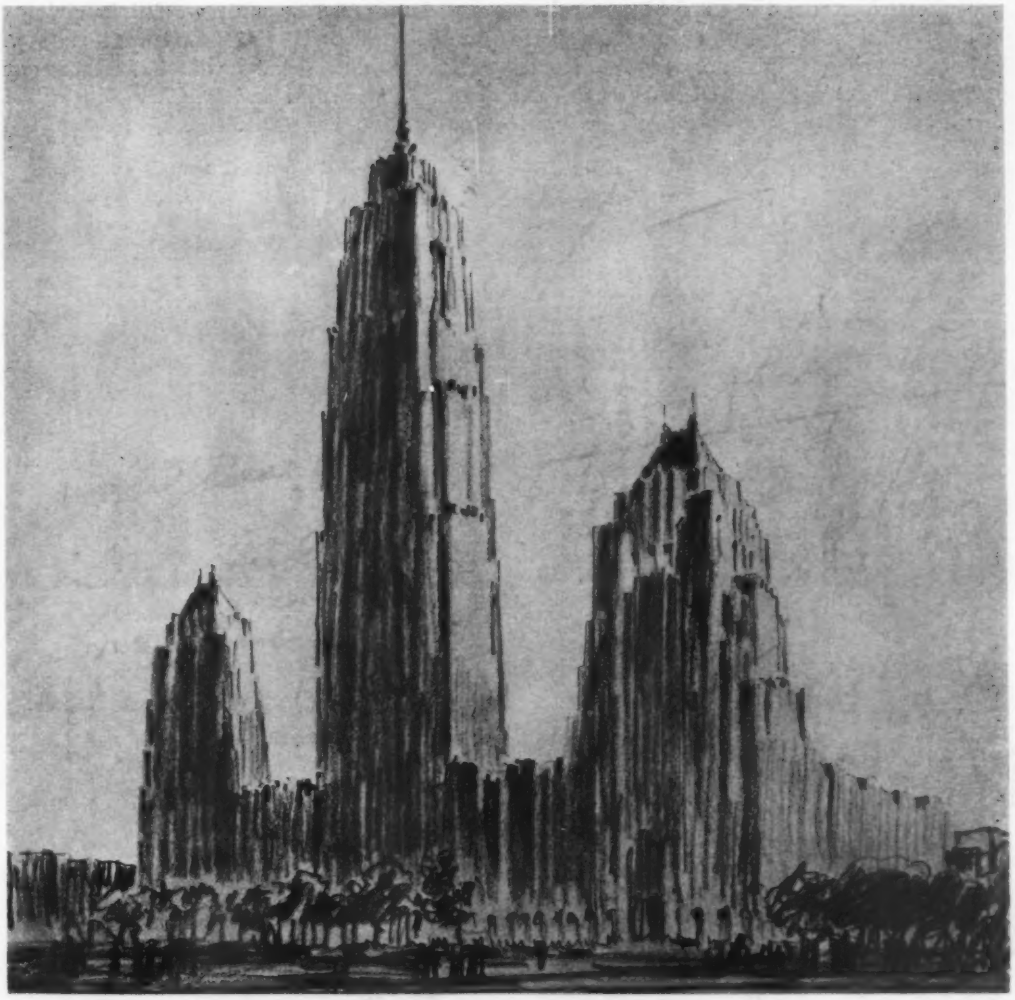

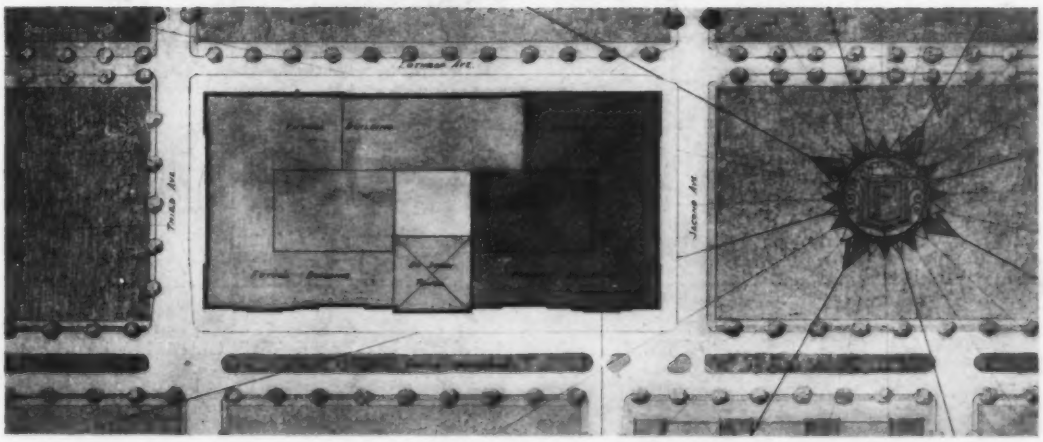

STUDY FOR THE ULTIMATE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.
ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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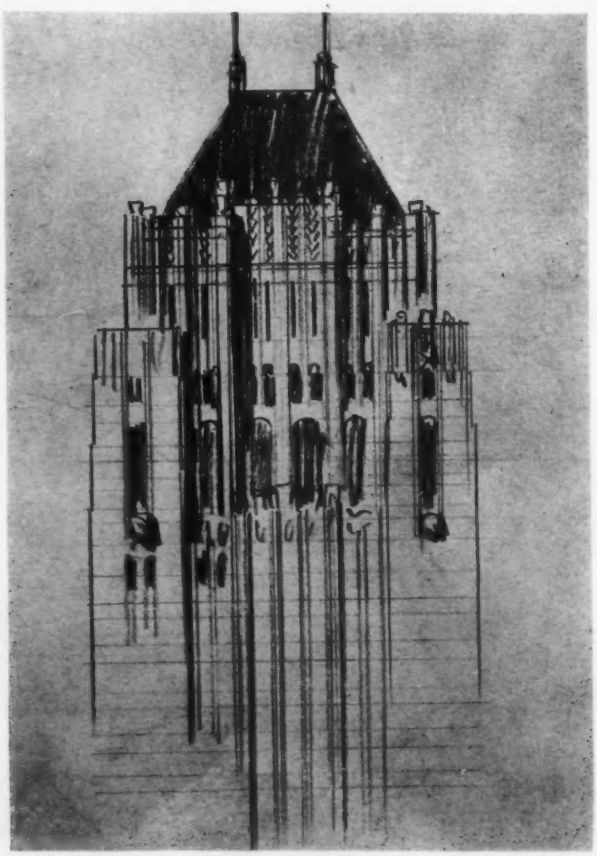
office of the architects and in the field, particularly to Robert Hubel in charge of exterior design, to Hugo Knapp in charge of interior design, to Robert Linton in the field and to the late Wayne Yates who had charge of the preparation of the working drawings. Nor must we fail in giving credit to the work of H. C. Blake, special engineer, and his corps of assistants whose efforts counted so much in the speed and efficiency with which the construction was carried through to completion.



PRELIMINARY STUDY OF FISHER BUILDING

TO WAKE THE SOUL BY TENDER STROKES OF ART, TO RAISE THE GENIUS AND TO MEND THE HEART.

THE DRAMA'S LAWS THE DRAMA'S PATRONS GIVE; FOR WE THAT LIVE TO PLEASE MUST PLEASE TO LIVE.—*Johnson*

Inscription on arches at either end of the Fisher Theatre Arcade Foyer

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A GROUP

OF PLATES ILLUSTRATING

THE FISHER BUILDING—DETROIT, MICHIGAN

ALBERT KAHN, INC.

Architects

Sculptured motifs shown at top of page are selected from a series of models by Ricci & Zari. The center and bottom models are selected from a group made by Di Lorenzo

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Photo by Dorr Duryea

FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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Photo by Drix Duryea

FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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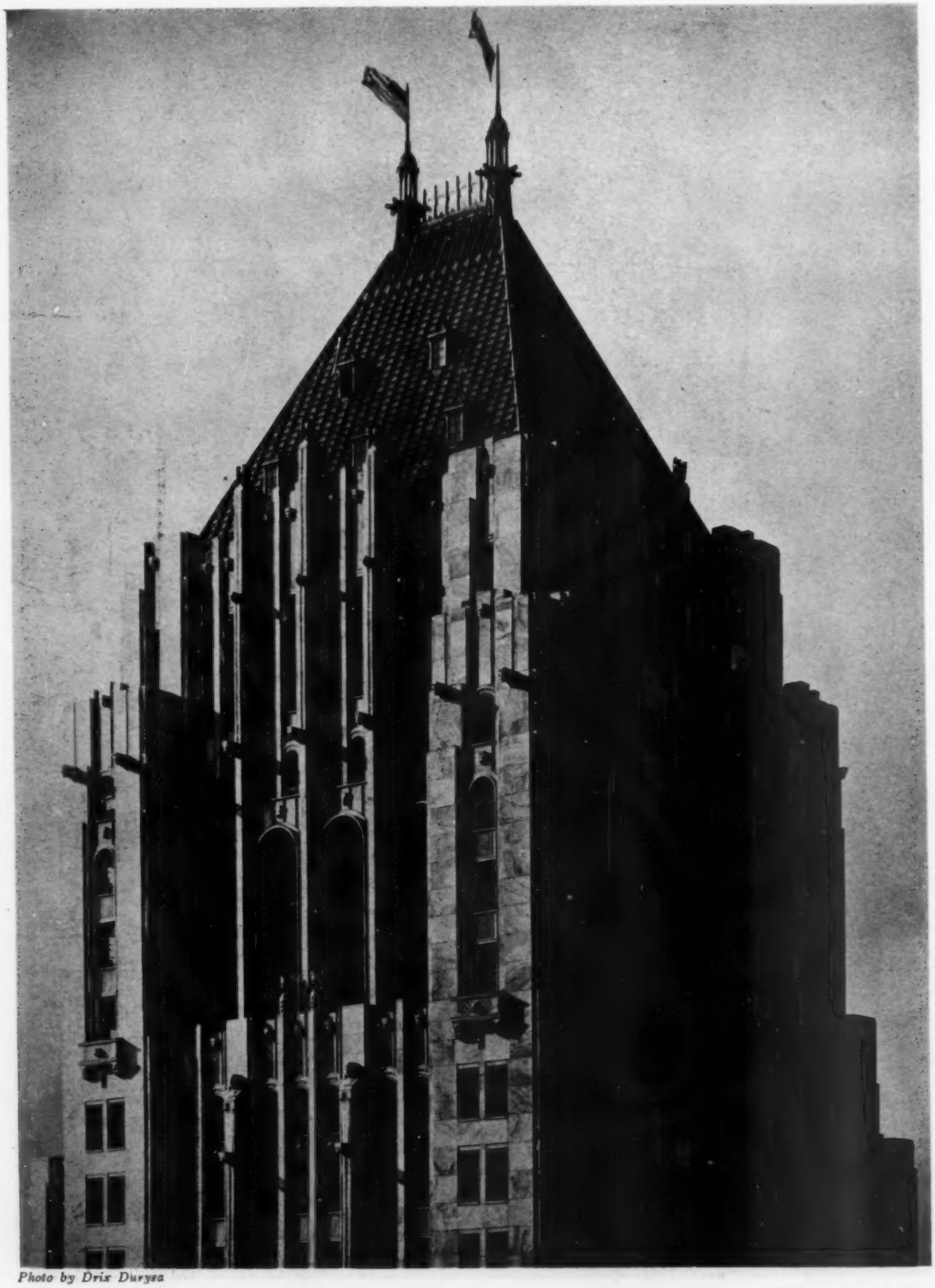

Photo by Drix Duryea

DETAIL OF TOWER, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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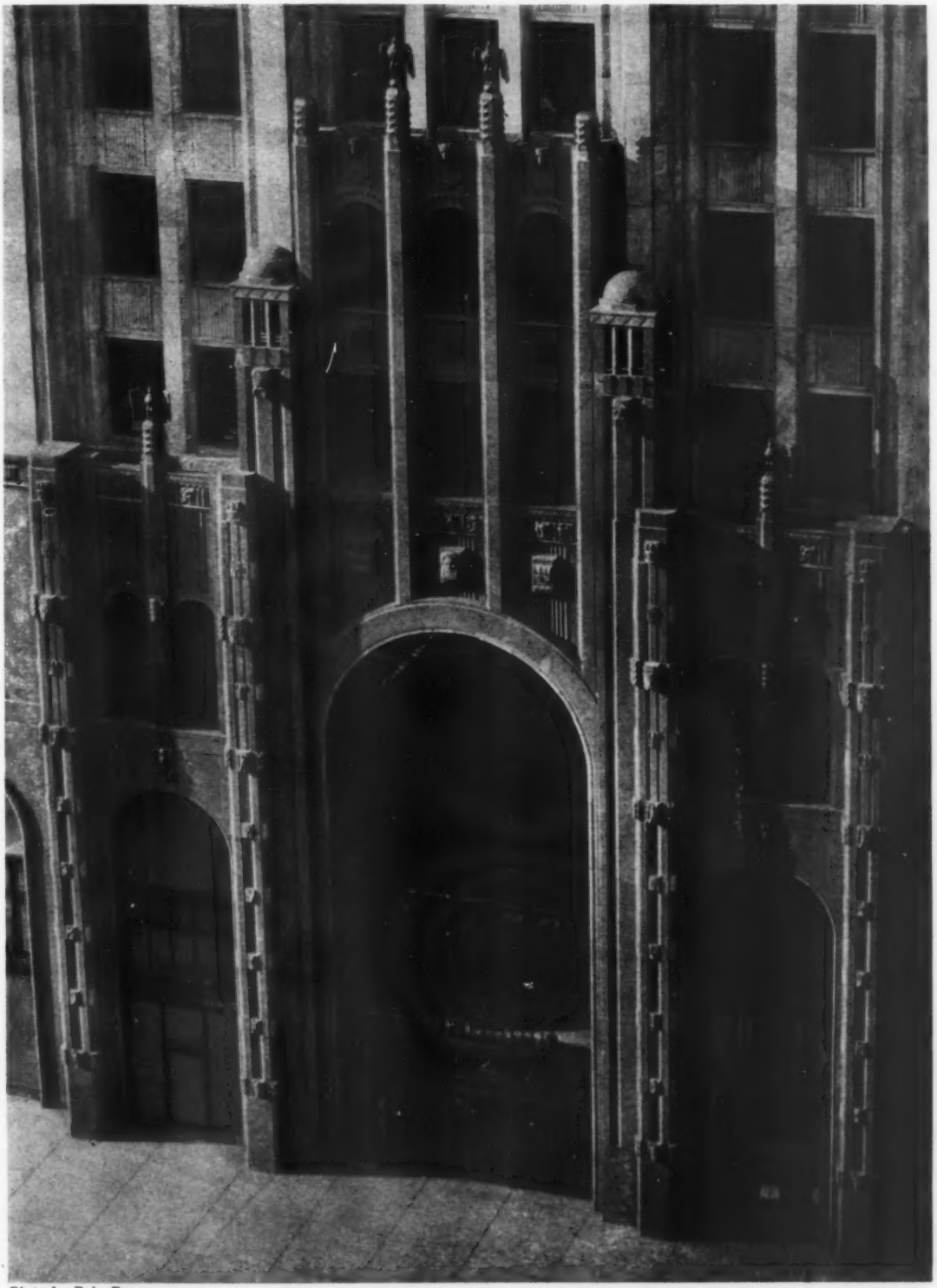

Photo by Drix Duryea

GRAND BOULEVARD ENTRANCE, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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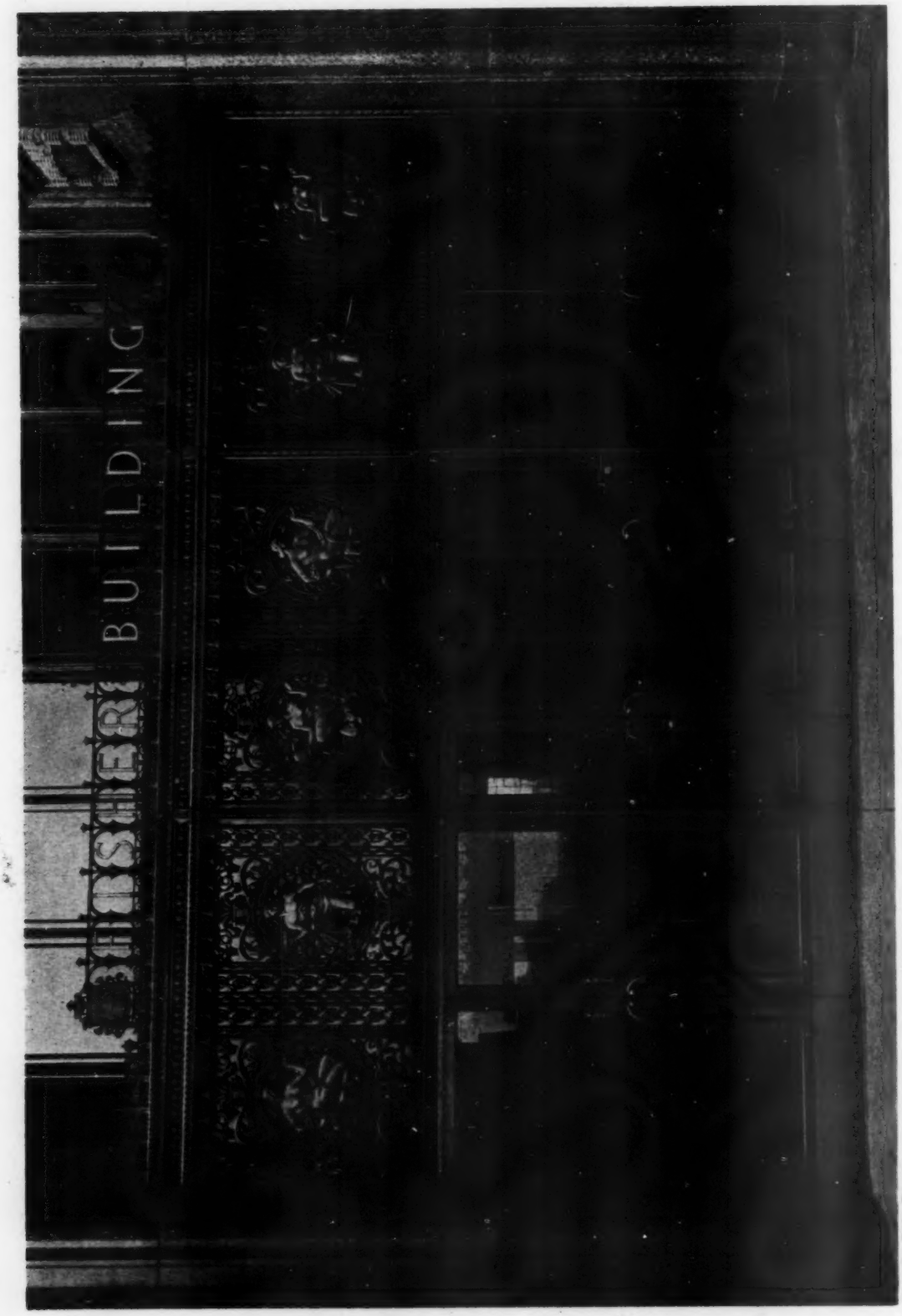


Photo by Drix Duryea

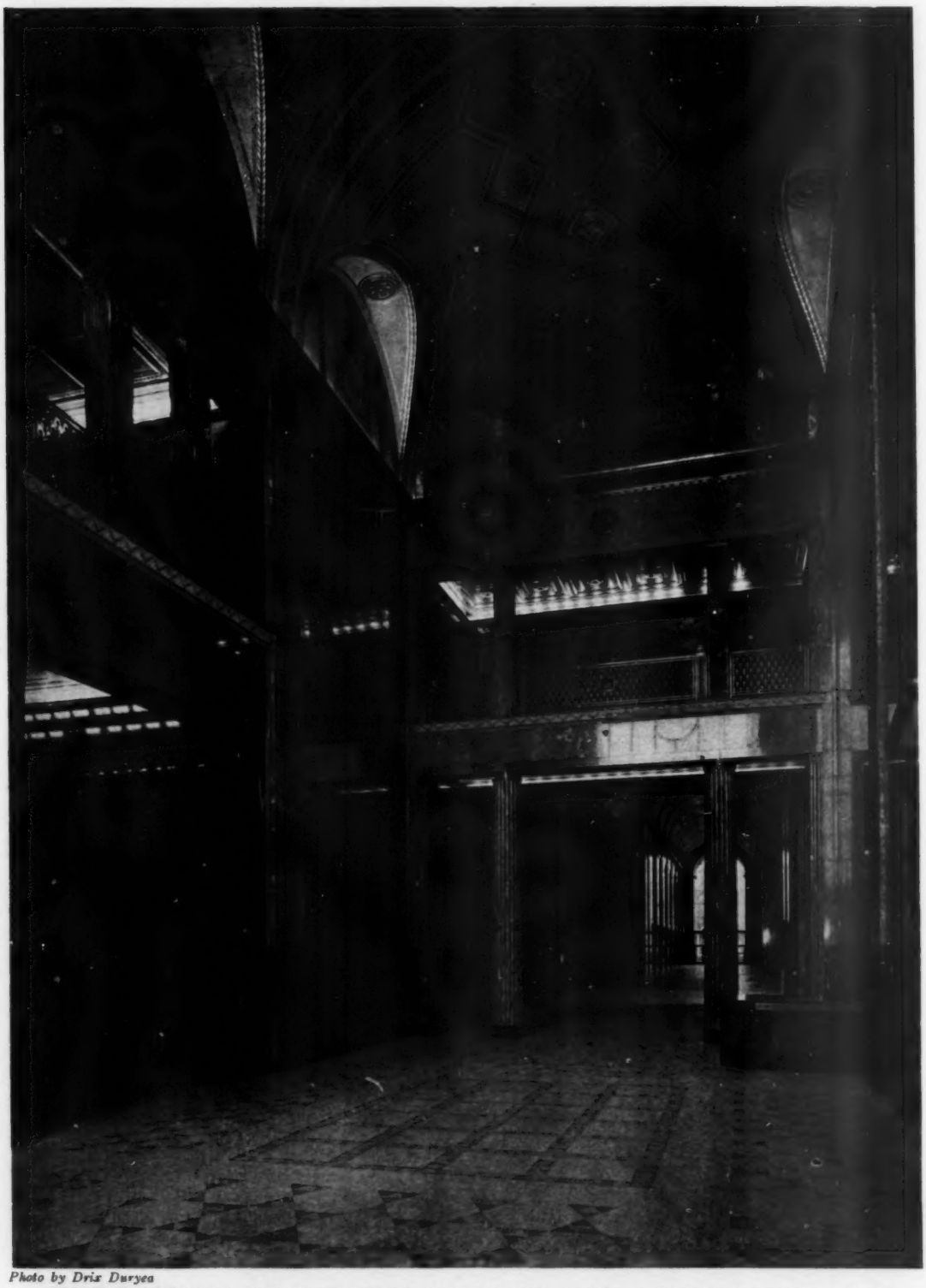
DETAIL OF GRAND BOULEVARD ENTRANCE, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

Photo by Drix Duryea

SHOP WINDOW DETAIL, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS



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GRAND BOULEVARD ENTRANCE LOBBY AND ARCADE, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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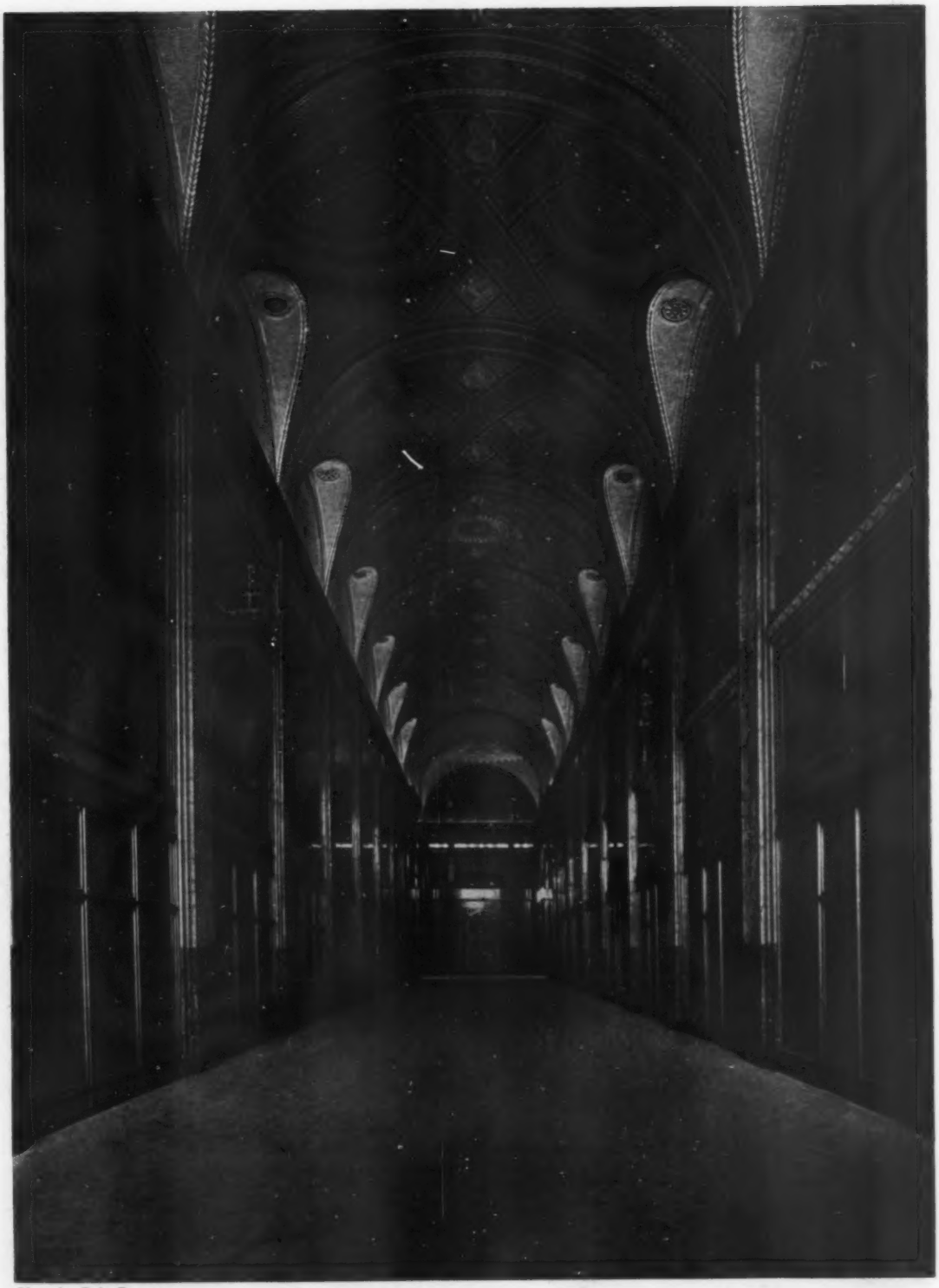

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FIRST FLOOR ARCADE BETWEEN SHOPS AND THEATRE, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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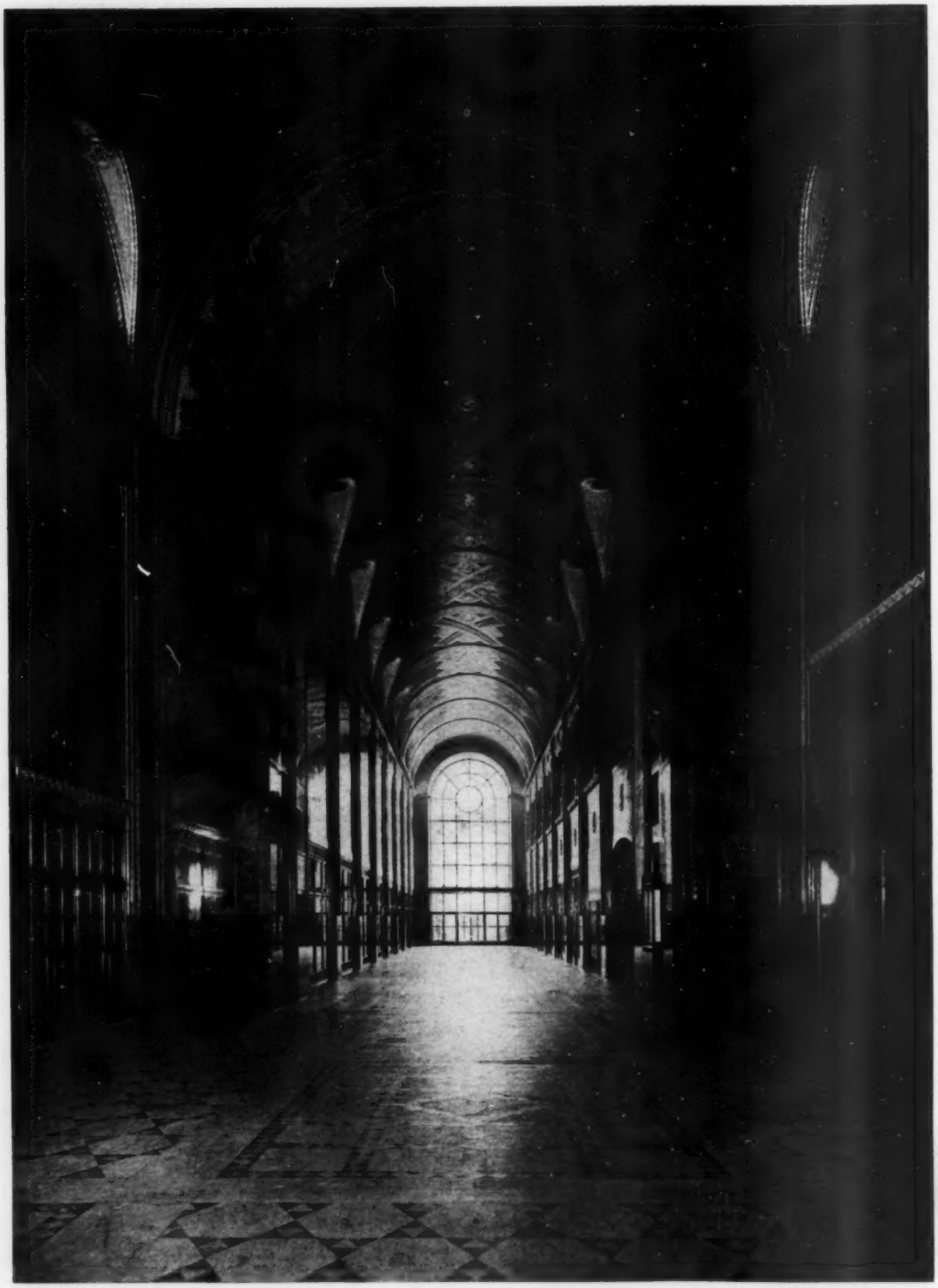

Photo by Drix Duryea

ARCADE AND THEATRE FOYER, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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Photo by Drix Duryea

CEILING OF THEATRE ARCADE FOYER, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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Photo by Drix Duryea

DETAIL OF FLOOR AT INTERSECTION OF ARCADES
FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.
ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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Photo by Drix Duryea

ARCADE DETAIL
FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.
ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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ELEVATOR LOBBY, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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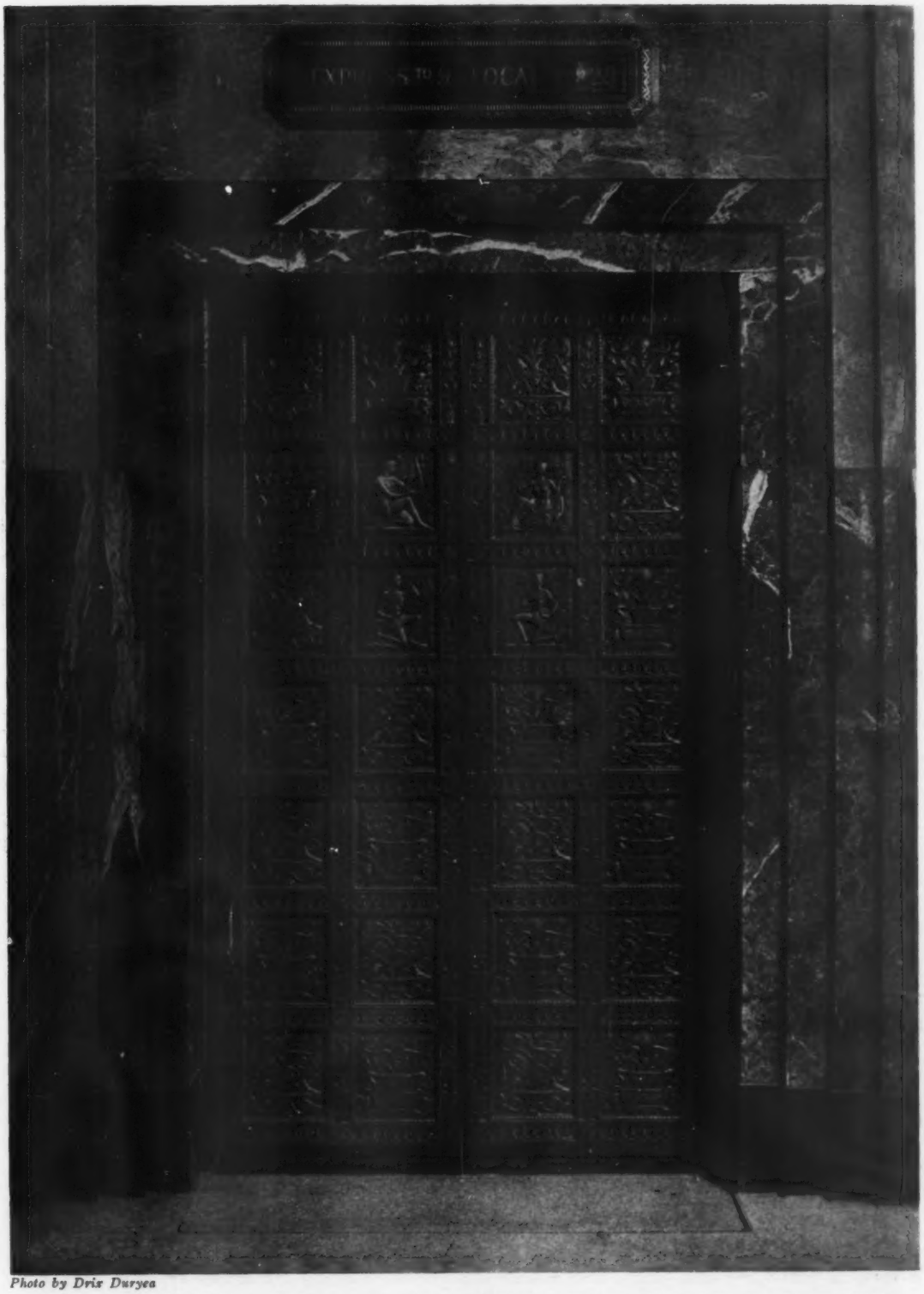

Photo by Drix Duryea

DETAIL OF ELEVATOR DOORS, FIRST FLOOR ARCADE, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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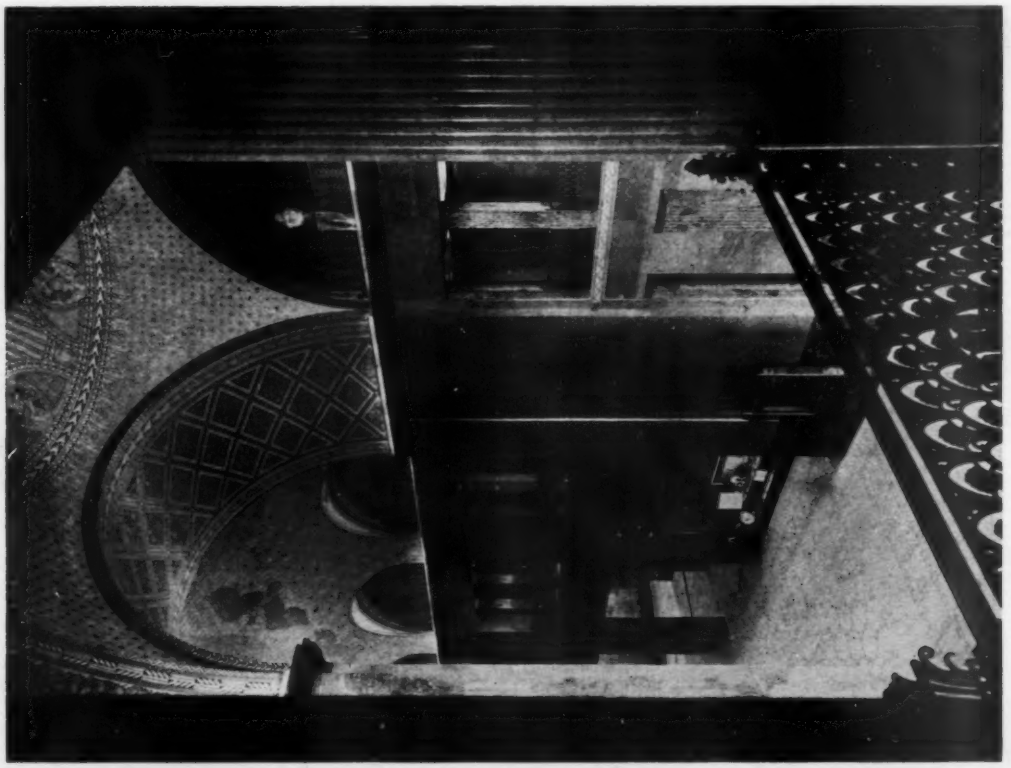

OPPOSITE SIDES OF ARCADE AT ARCADE INTERSECTION

FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.—ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

Photos by Drix Duryea

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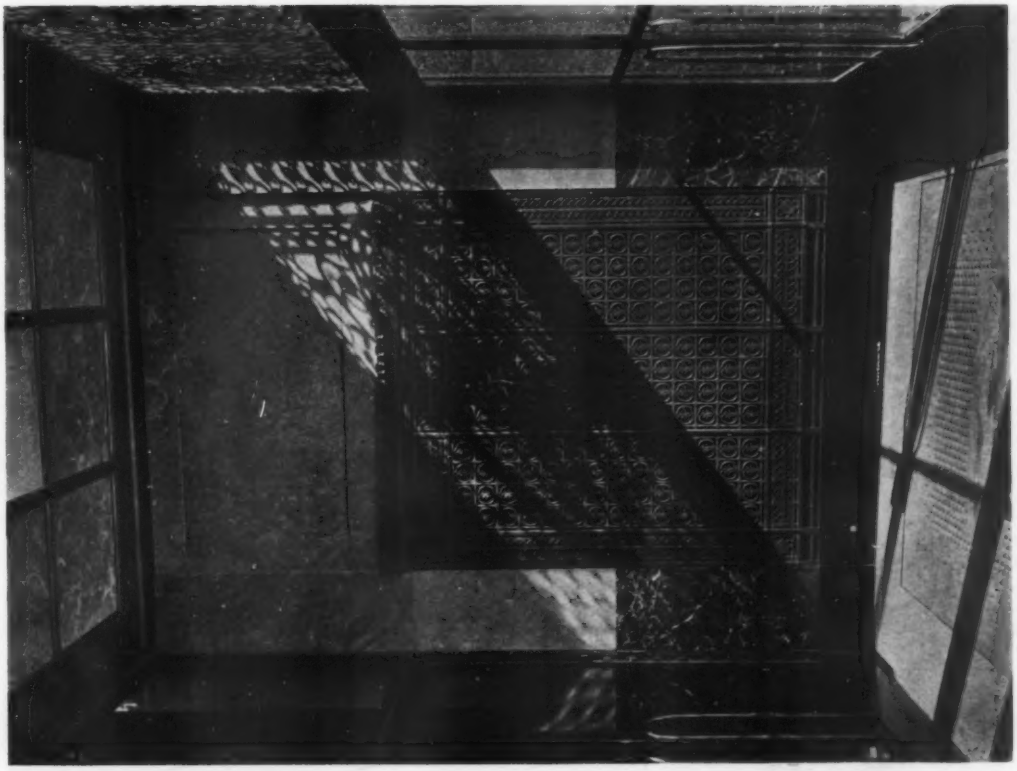
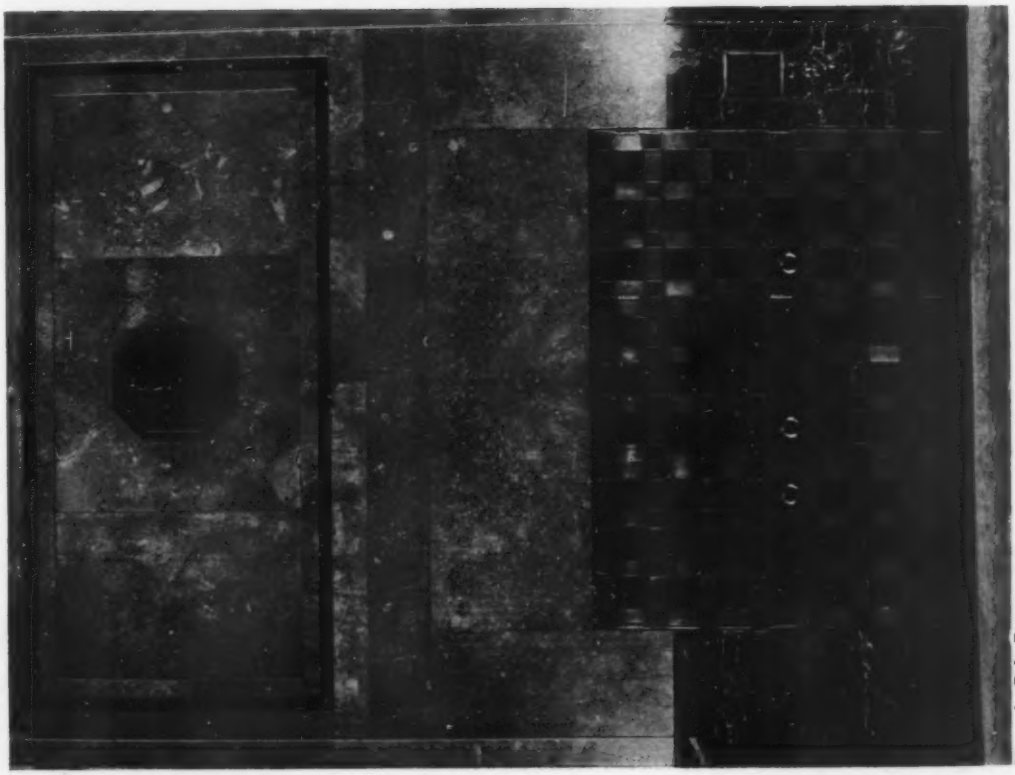


RADIATOR GRILLE IN GRAND BOULEVARD VESTIBULE



Photos by Dric Duryea

DOORS TO FREIGHT ELEVATOR AND JANITOR'S CLOSET

FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.—ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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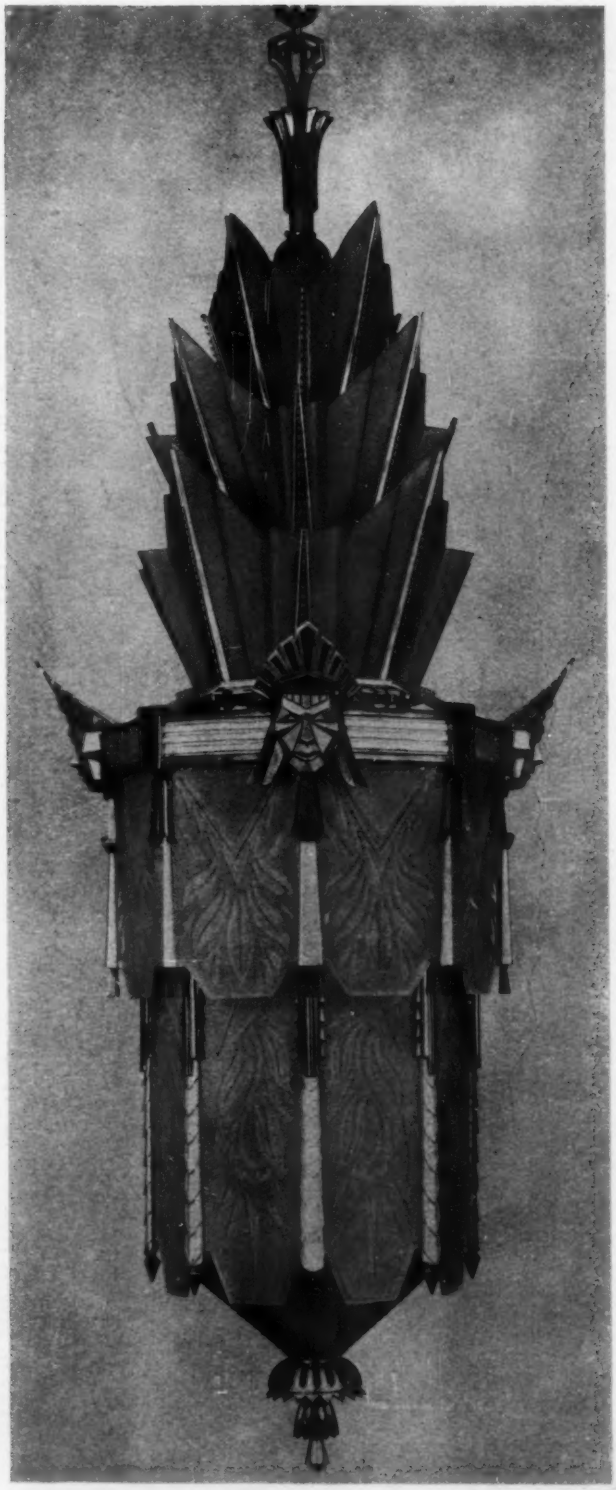

LIGHTING FIXTURES IN THE THEATRE LOBBY CONSIST OF FOUR HANGING FIXTURES MEASURING APPROXIMATELY FIVE FEET IN HEIGHT, AND COLUMN AND PILASTER FIXTURES APPROXIMATELY FOUR FEET IN HEIGHT. A HANGING FIXTURE IS REPRODUCED AT THE LEFT AND A WALL FIXTURE ABOVE

THE FIXTURES WERE DESIGNED BY EDW. F. CALDWELL & COMPANY

LIGHTING FIXTURES FOR FISHER BUILDING. DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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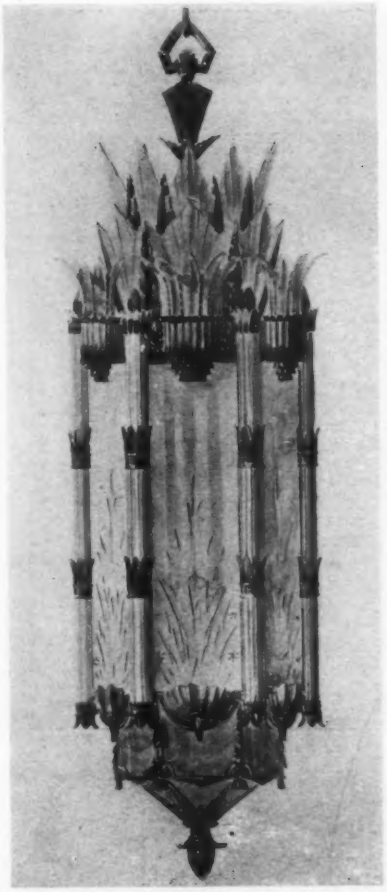
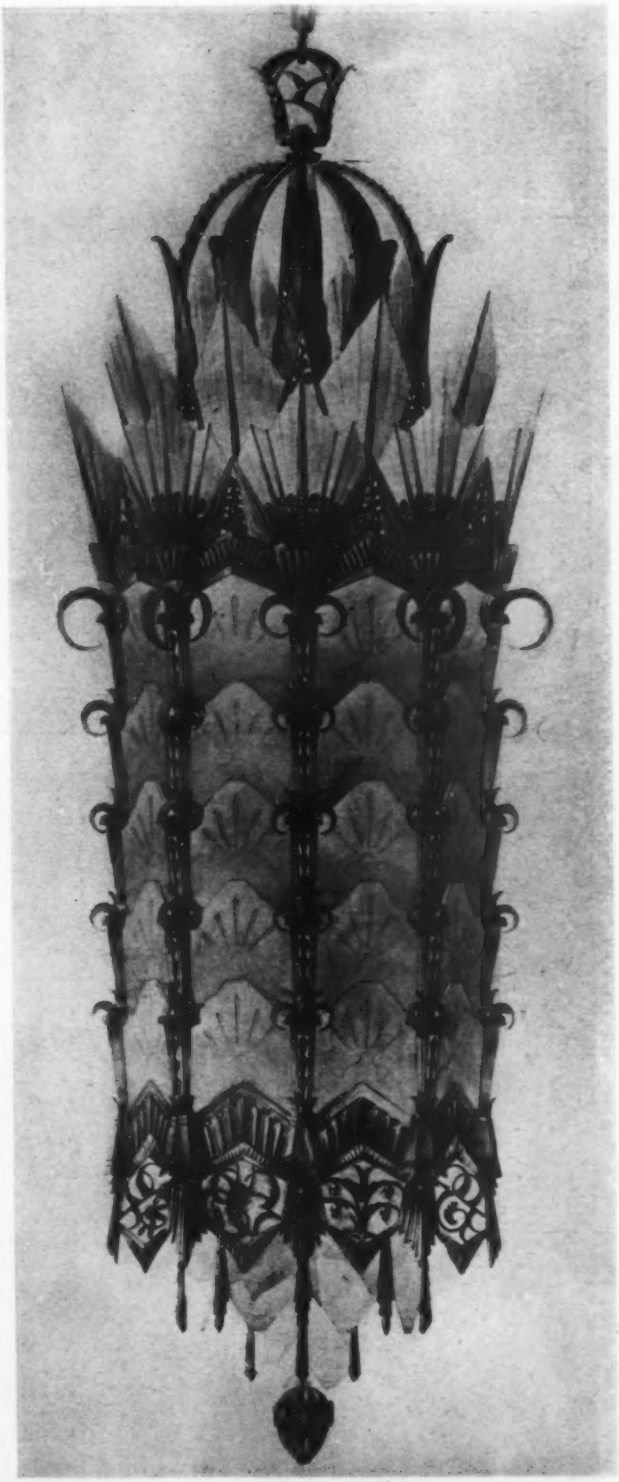


THE SKETCH OF A TYPICAL ARCADE HANGING FIXTURE IS REPRODUCED ABOVE. THESE FIXTURES ARE ABOUT NINE FEET SIX INCHES IN HEIGHT. AT THE RIGHT IS SHOWN A SKETCH OF A LARGE FIXTURE TO HANG IN THE CENTER OF THE ARCADE THEATRE FOYER. THIS FIXTURE MEASURES APPROXIMATELY TWELVE FEET HIGH. SIMILAR FIXTURES, BUT SMALLER IN SIZE, SURROUND THE PRINCIPAL FIXTURE IN THE FOYER.

OWING TO THE SIZE OF THESE FIXTURES, ALUMINUM HAS BEEN EXTENSIVELY USED IN THEIR CONSTRUCTION. CERTAIN MOTIFS ARE EMPHASIZED BY BEING TOUCHED OFF IN COLOR OR IN GOLD. ALL THE GLASS SECTIONS ARE ETCHED, AND DELICATELY TINTED TO ACCENTUATE THE ORNAMENT

THE FIXTURES WERE DESIGNED BY EDW. F. CALDWELL & COMPANY



LIGHTING FIXTURES FOR FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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THEATRE LOBBY AND ENTRANCE, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.
ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

Photos by Dris Duryea

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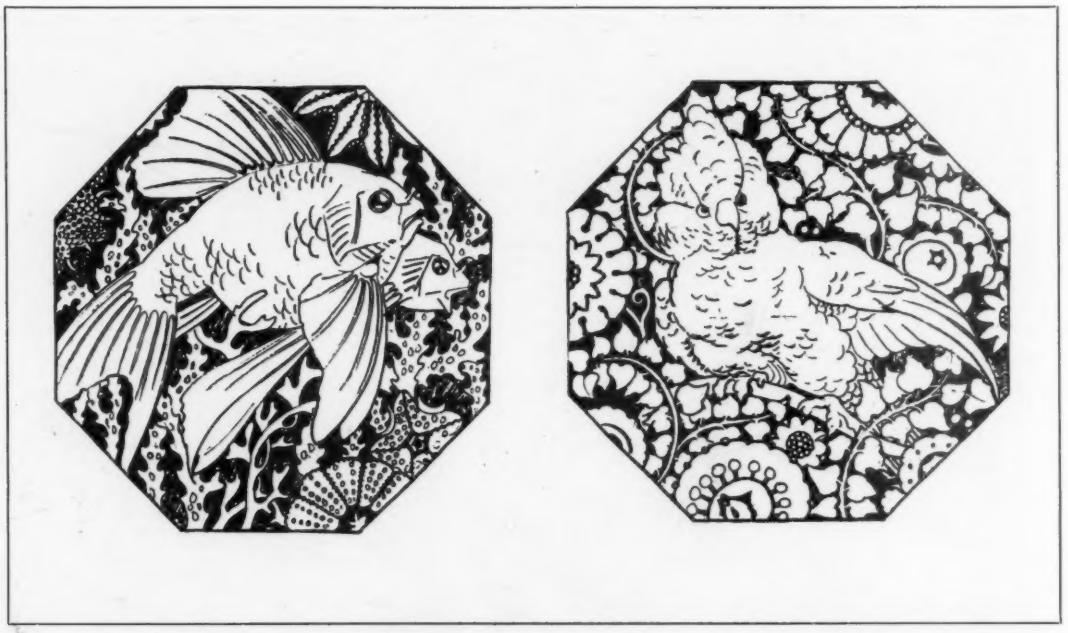
Photo by White Studio

BANKING ROOM, FIRST NATIONAL BANK, FISHER BUILDING BRANCH, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS



TWO OF A SERIES OF BRONZE INTAGLIO DESIGNS FOR ELEVATOR DOORS BY PROFESSOR MAROTI

Courtesy Michigan Manufacturer and Financial Record

Photo by Drix Duryea

TYPICAL ELEVATOR LOBBY OF UPPER FLOORS, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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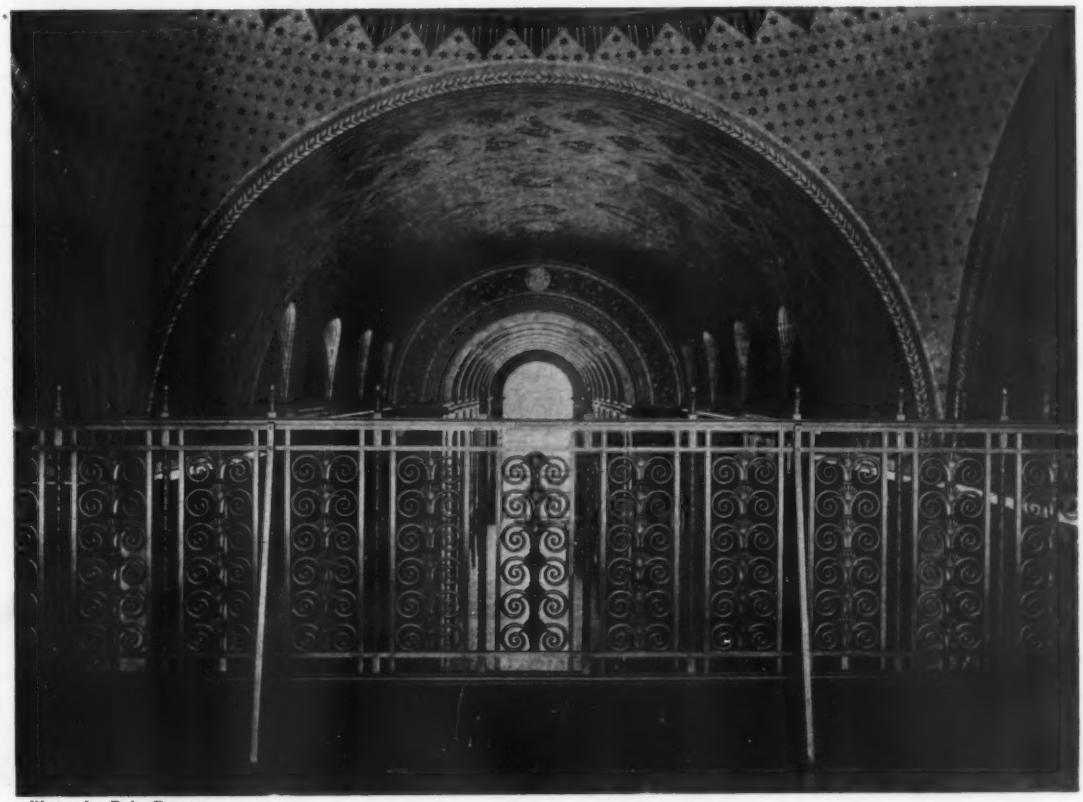


Photos by Drix Duryea

ARCADE BRIDGE RAILS, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

XUM

Photo by Manning Bros.

FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

ENGINEERING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DESIGN OF THE FISHER BUILDING

ALBERT KAHN, INC., *Architects*

J. MATTE, *Structural Engineer* — F. K. BOOMHOWER, *Chief Mechanical Engineer*

S. SAULSON, *Sanitary Engineer* — J. G. TURNBULL, *Electrical Engineer*

THE site occupied by the Fisher Building was covered by a few feet of top soil under which lay about 10 feet of hard, yellow clay. Below is a bed of blue clay about 130 feet thick, which decreases a little in hardness for about 30 feet as the moisture content increases and is constant in quality for the remainder of the depth. At a depth of 142 feet below the surface there is a bed of good hardpan, varying from 10 feet to 20 feet thick, and farther down are layers of gravel, hard blue clay and hardpan with occasional boulders, soapstone and soft limestone. Good limestone is found at a depth of 266 feet below the surface.

The garage, theatre and north wing of the office building are carried on spread footings. The tower and west wing are carried on open well caissons to hardpan at a depth of 142 feet below the surface, using a bearing value of 18,000 pounds per square foot. These foundations were carried down as a protection against future deep excavations for city subways and because the tower loads require a greater soil pressure than is allowable on clay.

The garage is a reinforced concrete structure with steel core columns; the other parts of the structure are of steel frame construction. To avoid columns in the first story shops and banking quarters, large areas of the 2nd and 3rd floors are hung from a system of girders at the 4th floor, supported on columns located so as not to interfere with the architectural features below.

The floors of the office building are of ribbed concrete, formed with removable metal pans. This had to be combined with solid slabs under service floor trenches where the offices are intended for medical occupancy, and also adjacent to all piers where stonework is carried by cantilever concrete brackets.

Special precautions were taken in supporting the exterior marble and granite and protecting it against cracks. The long, vertical stone mullions, which occur in each bay between windows, are reinforced with steel columns, clipped on to each spandrel beam and supported on deep girders at the fourth floor. At typical piers the floor slab is cantilevered out over the spandrel beams and the stone supported by shell angles carried by adjustable inserts set in the concrete. All stone is anchored back with brass tie rod. In the tower portion lead joints were placed in the stone work at each floor and in the remainder of the building at alternate floors.

The tower is covered with glazed tile wired to angles bolted on the face of precast concrete slabs. Each length of slab is supported top and bottom on horizontal "T" irons 3 feet apart. The "T" irons are bolted to steel rafters spaced about 4 feet 6 inches apart, following the roof slope.

Photo by Manning Bros.

VIEW OF FISHER BUILDING FROM THE GENERAL MOTORS BUILDING

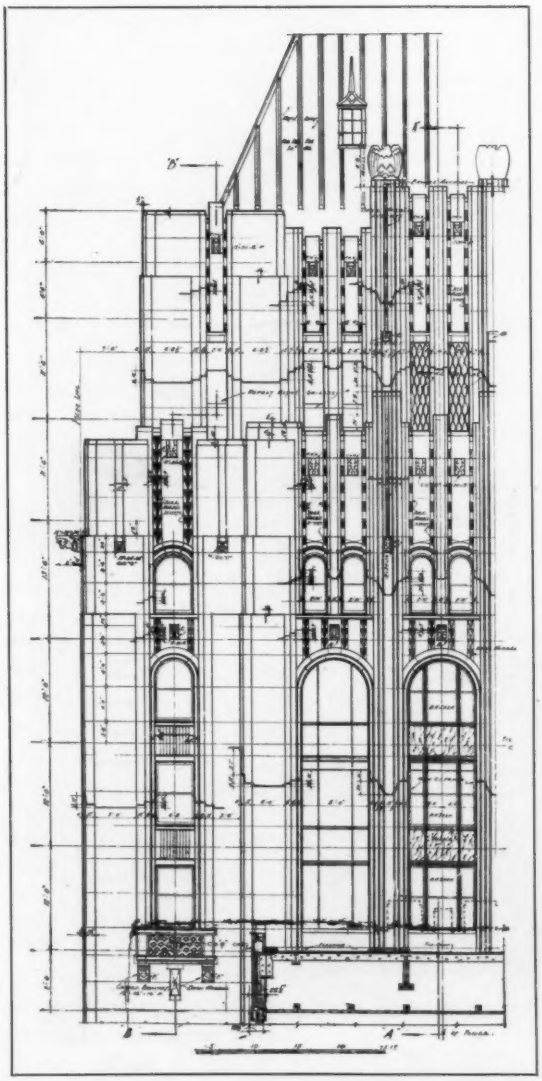
ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

Balcony brackets shown in upper corners of this page modeled by Ricci & Zari

XUM

The wind bracing system for the tower is designed for 15 pounds per square foot wind pressure. Connections of beams and girders to columns in braced bents were made with top and bottom angles where these connections sufficed, and where beam moments were larger, with horizontal half sections of "I" beams with flange riveted to column and web to top or bottom flange of beam or girder. X-bracing and knee braces were found economical where they did not interfere with the architectural treatment.

Changes authorized after steel erection was under way were taken care of in the field. It was found that the least time was lost and the best results obtained by shipping new material to the building without shop fabrication, thus permitting cutting and arc welding in place on the job.



SECOND BOULEVARD SIDE OF TOWER ABOVE 22ND FLOOR

PLUMBING SYSTEM

The pumping equipment and water heaters of the Fisher Building are located in the sub-basement. Provision has been made in the piping and the arrangement of equipment for future pumps and heaters, and the machines installed at this time were selected with a view toward taking care of the ultimate load of the final development.

The machine room is connected by a tunnel under the basement floor to the base of the several pipe shafts which extend up through the building and connect to horizontal pipe spaces located above the 3rd and the 10th floors of the main section of the building, and above the 21st floor of the tower. In these horizontal pipe shafts all distributing mains are located.

The water supply for the building is divided into three systems. Water at city pressure supplies the 1st floor and basement fixtures. Another system of piping supplies all fixtures in the main section of the building from the 2nd to the 11th floors. The high pressure system supplies water to all fixtures and equipment in the tower above the 12th floor.

The hot water system is divided into two sections, corresponding to the medium pressure and high pressure cold water systems. The service to each of these systems is carried through economizers installed on the heating system condensate return line. From these economizers the water flows to instantaneous steam water heaters and then to the distributing mains. The hot water supply mains on the low pressure hot water system are installed in the pipe space above the 10th floor and a circulating main for the system is installed on the basement ceiling connecting to the base of all hot water supply risers. The distributing main on the high pressure hot water system is installed on the ceiling of the 28th floor with a circulating main in the pipe space above the 10th floor. Separate water heaters have been provided for the kitchen and basement cafeteria, for the barber shop and for the laundry, and a separate system of hot water piping has been provided for the garage.

The installation of a central station drinking water system was found to be uneconomical due to the large ground area of the building and individual systems have been installed feeding each vertical row of drinking fountains. Each of these systems consists of a small refrigerating machine, an open type water cooler and circulating pump located in the pipe space above each vertical group

of fountains. The machines for the fountains in the main section of the building are located in the 10th floor pipe space and the machines for the fountains in the tower are located in the pipe space on the 28th floor. An ozone sterilizer has been installed in the tower attic above the highest cooler tank which sterilizes all water used for drinking purposes.

The drainage system for the building is divided into four sections: sanitary, rain water, garage drainage and ejector systems. The sanitary and rain water systems, independent within the area of the building, are connected together just before joining the city sewer. Because of the extent of the system, connections have been made to the city sewer in two places. The ejector systems handle all sewage from the sub-basement and tunnel.

The garage drainage system is independent from the drainage system in the principal portion of the building and carries the waste from all floor drains and wash racks to a large steel settling tank suspended below the 2nd floor of the garage. This tank was designed to catch the mud and other heavy waste and permit it to settle out before the waste water is discharged to the sewer. The location and shape of the tank permits the driving of a dump truck underneath it and the dumping of the contents of the tank into the truck by opening a sludge gate.

All plumbing fixtures, where possible, were kept off the floor. The slop sinks throughout are recessed into the floor so that the rim projects only eight inches above the floor in order to permit of the convenient emptying of the mop tanks used in cleaning.

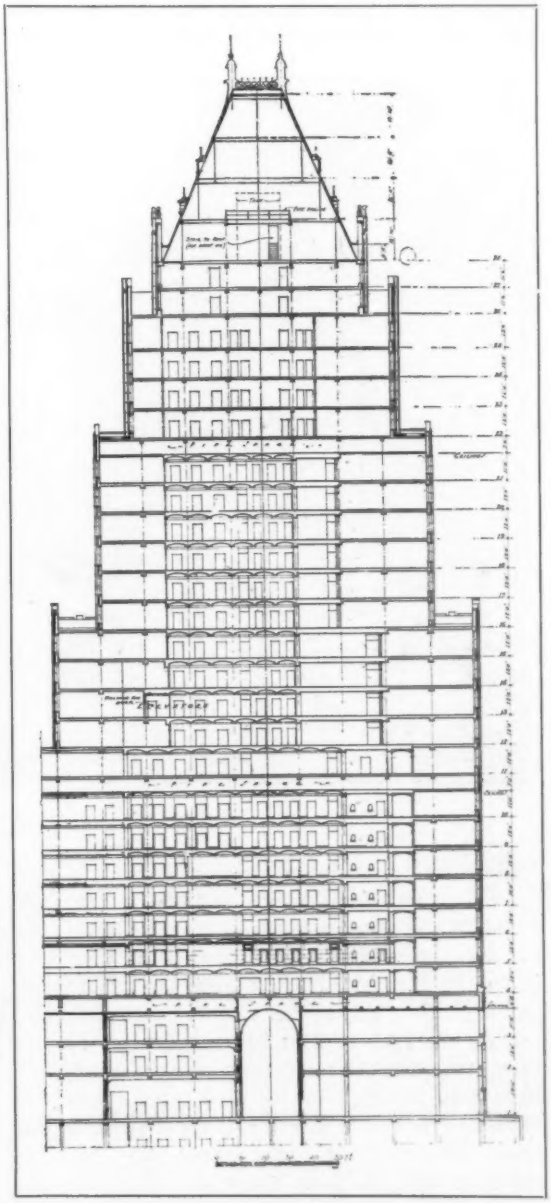
To provide for the needs of the tenants, special piping stacks were provided at each alternate corridor column throughout the building and at more frequent intervals in that wing of the building which was designed for the use of doctors and dentists. In the office section of the building this special piping consists of hot and cold water, waste and vent risers. In the medical wing of the building compressed air and gas risers were provided as well. All of these risers were equipped with tees above and below the floor, so located as to readily permit of the installation of fixtures. Fire standpipes, provided throughout the building, are fed by a fire pump installed in the machine room. At each floor on each standpipe riser is installed a hose rack with seventy-five feet of 1½ inch hose.

A very complete system of piping was installed on the top floor of the garage for washing cars. This consists primarily of high pressure pumps taking suction from especially designed tanks in which soap is dissolved, and delivering water through a hose atached to a swiveled overhead garage washer.

HEATING SYSTEM

The building is heated by a vacuum steam heating system supplied with steam from a central heating company's street mains.

A 16-inch service has been brought into the building which is of sufficient capacity to serve future, as well as present, units. Steam is delivered



SECTION THROUGH TOWER LOOKING NORTH

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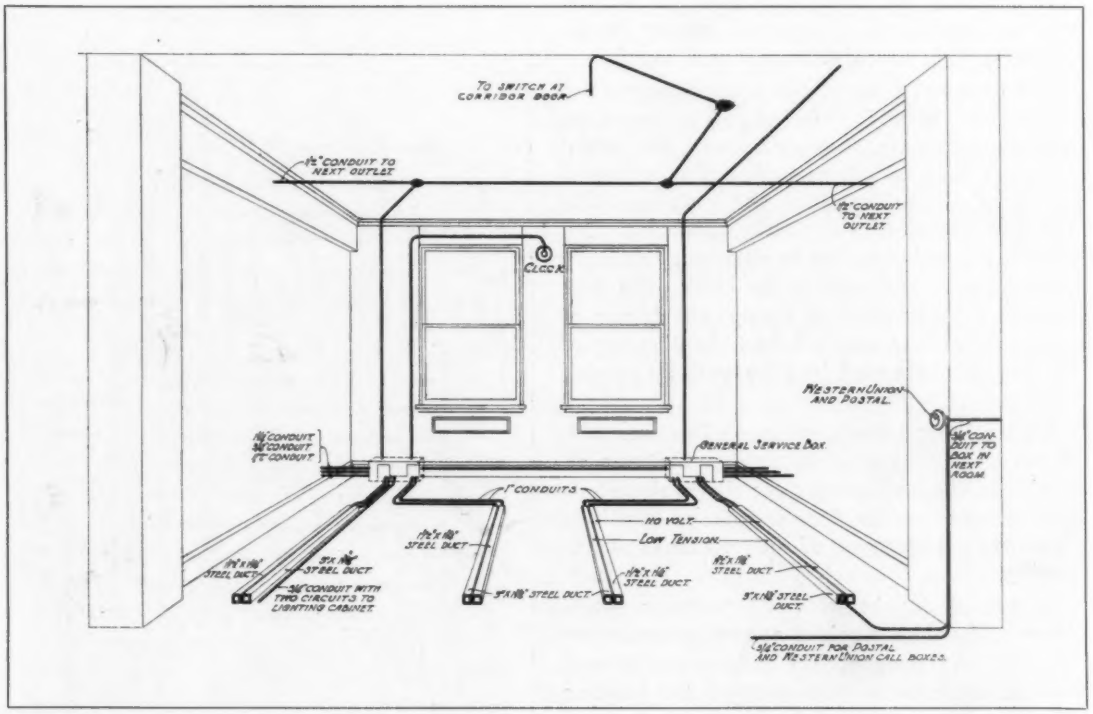
into the building at approximately 15 pounds pressure and is reduced to the required pressure for heating. Separate systems have been provided to meet the varying needs of tenants and to limit the expansion of the risers in the building. A separate main has been provided for supplying the stores on the 1st floor, and an independent section of this main has been provided for the bank. Another system has been provided for the shops on the 2nd and 3rd floors, with a steam main installed in the pipe space above the 1st floor and the returns on the basement ceiling. The remainder of the main section of the building is fed from two systems; one for the office section and another for the professional wing, with the steam mains in the pipe space above the 10th floor and the returns collected in the pipe space above the 3rd floor. The tower is heated by a main located in the pipe space above the 21st floor feeding up to the radiators on the 22nd floor and above, and down to the radiators on the 12th to 21st floors, inclusive. The return mains for the radiators above the 22nd floor have been installed in the pipe space below this floor and return mains for the radiators on the lower section of the tower system have been installed in the pipe space above the 10th floor. Independent systems of heating and ventilating have been provided for the theatre and for the garage.

The return mains for these various systems are collected in the tunnel and carried back to the vacuum pumps in the machine room. The discharge from the vacuum pumps is connected through economizers on the domestic hot water supply system. A high pressure system of piping has been installed for supplying steam at service pressure to the laundry and kitchens.

A feature of the heating system is that all radiators are of copper and are concealed in the thickness of the wall. All radiators are controlled by direct control thermostatic valves with an extension handle for hand regulation.


TO SWITCH AT CORRIDOR DOOR
½" CONDUIT TO NEXT OUTLET
½" CONDUIT TO NEXT OUTLET
CLOCK
WESTERN UNION AND POSTAL
¾" CONDUIT TO BOX IN NEXT ROOM
¾" CONDUIT ¾" CONDUIT 1" CONDUIT
GENERAL SERVICE BOX
1" CONDUITS
110 VOLT
LOW TENSION
4½"X1⅛" STEEL DUCT
3"X1⅛" STEEL DUCT
2-¾" CONDUIT WITH TWO CIRCUITS TO LIGHTING CABINET
¾" CONDUIT FOR POSTAL AND WESTERN UNION CALL BOXES

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION IN TYPICAL OFFICE

The garage is heated by means of unit heaters, a number of which are arranged with connections to the outside so they may supply air for ventilation when needed.

On each riser in the building, in addition to the customary hand valve, there has been installed a pneumatic valve controlled by means of an air switch located in the engineer's office in the machine room which permits the turning on and off, in groups, of these risers. This will permit heating small sections of the building when desired and will permit the control of the heating system to correspond with varying weather and wind conditions.

VENTILATION

The ventilating of the building is provided by forty motor driven multi-blade fans grouped in seven fan rooms. Separate fans are provided for each section of the building requiring ventilation at particular times. All air supplied to the building is filtered through self-cleaning automatic oil filters. Filters are also provided for the air exhausted from the kitchen and for the gases from the fireplace flues.

Ventilating units supplying the cafeteria, barber shop and bank area are equipped with air washers and cooling coils. The refrigerating equipment for the air cooling system consists of carbon dioxide compressors and auxiliaries located in the sub-basement. Provision has been made for recirculating a certain percentage of the air from the cafeteria, barber shop, bank and arcade, and ozonizers have been installed to partially revivify the air in these systems when operated for recirculation.

An extensive system of remote control has been provided for the ventilating system. Each fan motor, washer motor, coil valve, intake and discharge pump can be operated by a push button located at the fan unit or at a main control board in the engineer's office. Complete ventilating and air conditioning equipment maintains a uniform temperature in the theatre at all seasons of the year.

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION

Primary service at 4,600 volts, three phase, 60 cycle, is purchased from the local power company, whose leads are extended from the street underground to the primary switch room, where it is metered and distributed to the various transformer banks. From the primary switches, cables in duplicate are extended underground and up through specially constructed shafts to each of the transformer banks. Transformers are located on the low sections of the roof. By so locating the transformers, a great advantage was obtained in that the large number of conduit runs so necessary to a building of this type were eliminated from the basement, thereby making this area desirable for rental space and utilizing the pipe space directly under that section of the roof for conduit run purposes; in addition, space in all pipe shafts was conserved and the area of the pipe shafts commonly used for conduit was made available for ventilation. Three transformers for power and three for light were provided at each bank. The power and lighting switchboards are located in a room adjoining the transformers so arranged as to require the shortest possible copper run. From the switchboard secondary feeders for both power and light are extended to the various load distributing centers and floors throughout the building.

Photo by Manning Bros.

SWITCH GEAR CONTROLLING PRIMARY CIRCUITS. NOTE THAT ALL PARTS ARE COMPLETELY ENCLOSED

Apart from the special lighting, every effort was made to effect a typical layout that would be flexible enough to eliminate as far as possible changes in outlet locations to accommodate tenant layouts. This was accomplished by coördinating the layouts of the lighting conduits and outlets, the underfloor duct system and the service boxes in such a manner that any part, or the whole, might be used either for lighting, switch legs or special lights, or power outlets.

The cove lighting of the arcade and elevator lobbies is so designed and arranged that various degrees of intensity can be obtained, each cove being sectionalized and controlled by remote control switches at a control station.

The "flood lighting" consists of banks of projectors located in each of the "set-backs" of the tower section of the building. In all, about 550 specially designed projectors are used. The flood lighting units are automatically time controlled.

WATCHMEN'S AND FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS

Fire alarm and watchmen's stations are connected electrically to recording apparatus located in the supervisor's office. Signals for the fire alarm and watchmen's stations record on separate instruments; each fire alarm and watch box is so coded that the supervisor can recognize the exact location from which the signal is received. All stations are provided with telephones so that the watchman can communicate with the supervisor or the reverse. Fire alarms from any box in the building record in the supervisor's office and are not connected direct with the city system, but allow some discretion to the building management as to whether or not the city apparatus should be called. All watch boxes are equipped with pilot lamps for signalling the watchmen either individually or in groups from the supervisor's office. The recorders are of the punch tape type and are located in the supervisor's office on the 4th floor and the Chief Engineer's office in the basement.

TELEPHONE SYSTEM

The main telephone distributing power and battery room is located in the basement, from which underground conduit extends to the various risers and to points in the basement for extension to the future units.

The main distributing frame has twenty-seven verticals with a capacity of 15,000 pairs. Nine 4-inch ducts lead from the street to the frame rooms.

At present two 1200-pair underground cables connect the central office and the main distributing frame, making a total of 2400 service pairs, of which 500 are terminated on the frame and 1900 are spliced direct to the floor cross-connecting terminal as "direct feeders." This eliminates excessive jumpering or cross-connecting on the main distributing frame.

Provision has been made for the distribution of the local or office telephones through the system of underfloor ducts and general service box. The telephone strip cabinets are located above the service box and connected to it by means of rigid conduit. The underfloor duct system for telephones is entirely separate from the duct system for electric service. The utilization of the individual underfloor duct system and service box has eliminated all wall plugs, the carrying of wires in cross walls and the necessity of wire moulds. At the same time telephones may be placed where desired.

ELEVATOR EQUIPMENT

The signal equipment of the elevator installation includes the following features: a preregistered signal system which registers a signal to stop by means of a red bullseye light in the cab when the elevator is in motion—when the elevator is stopped and a call is registered two floors away in the direction of travel the same red light will indicate, and if one floor away a similar green light will indicate; up and down lanterns with single stroke bell at each floor above the first and an illuminated signal above each first floor door when the car is ready to receive passengers; and an automatic despatching system operated from a despatcher's desk. From this point the despatcher is given the location of each elevator, all floors at which calls have been registered and an indicator showing when an operator is using the by-pass or signal cutout switch. The despatcher can also cancel the calls for any elevator and increase or decrease its speed to meet schedule requirements, start or stop the motor generator set for any elevator motor, transfer signals from local to express or vice versa to elevators No. 3 or No. 8, or both. He may also telephone to any elevator cab, each pent house or chief engineer's office. The night service cars No. 3 and No. 8 are also so connected at night that the operator may telephone to any part of the building.

The call buttons in the elevator corridors constitute an unusual feature as they are mounted in an ornamental bronze standard, which is located centrally on the floor between the two banks of elevators, thereby making a minimum of travel for a waiting passenger after having given the signal.

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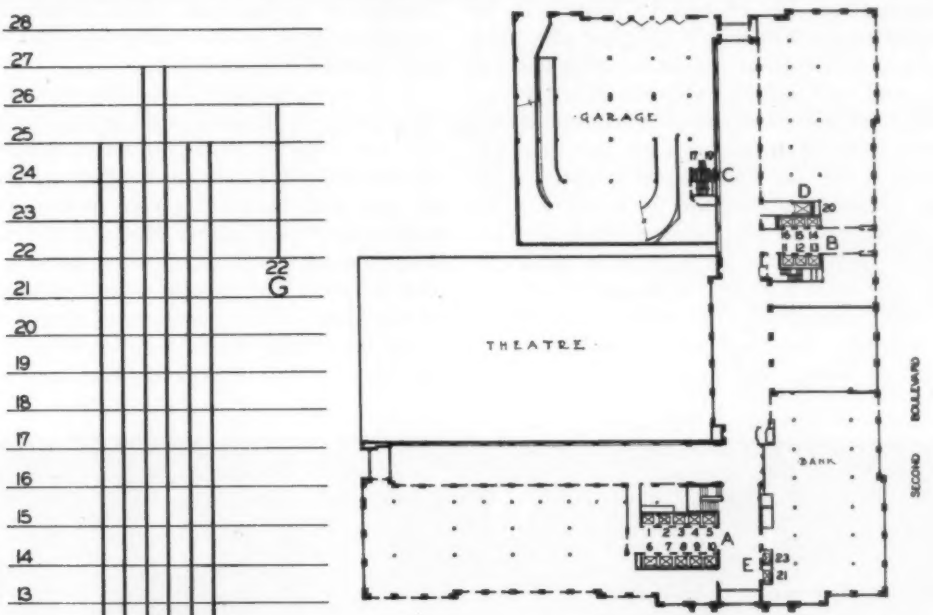

ELEVATOR RISER DIAGRAM

Bank	Numbers	Number in Bank	Capacity, Pounds	Speed, Ft. per Minute	Car Size	Hoisting Machine	Current	Service	Note
A	1–10	10	3000	700	7'-4" x 5'-10"	gearless	variable voltage from motor generator set	Tower section	
B	11–16	6	2800	500		gearless	variable voltage	Professional wing	
C	17–19	3	2000	500		gearless	variable voltage	Garage	Automatic push button
D	20	1	5000	450	5'-8" x 12'-0"	gearless	variable voltage	Freight	
E	21–23	2	2900	150		geared two speed	alternating		
F	24–25	2						Bank, passenger and coin lift	Full automatic
G	22	1	1700	345		gearless	variable voltage	Private	

All power service to elevator equipment is 440 volts—3 phase—60 cycle—3 wire.

ELEVATOR INSTALLATION, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

Elevators Nos. 17, 18 and 19, located in the garage, are arranged so that if only one elevator is in service it will park at the 1st or 11th floor, as desired, and will respond to calls registered on intermediate floors. With two cars in service one will park at the 11th or top floor and the other will park at the 1st floor. When a call is registered at an intermediate floor, both cars will respond making a trip one way and park, remaining 180 degrees apart in the round trip cycle.

Each car, after parking or stopping at a terminal, will respond to a call stop at other floors where calls have been registered for passage in the direction of travel, the same as though being handled by an operator. Each of these cars may be isolated from its interconnection with the others and operated independently.

A position indicator is placed over each elevator door on the 1st floor. The doors are operated with side arm type pneumatic operators which operate as follows: when cars are standing or parked the car gate and the landing door will remain open until a call is registered. The gate and door will then close after which the car responds to the call and after reaching the floor both gate and door automatically open. After an adjustable time interval has elapsed the door and gate automatically close and the elevator will complete its trip.

Photo by Manning Bros.

TRANSFORMER ROOM, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

FIFTY years ago the proposal to build a boulevard around the City of Detroit, three miles from the City Hall, met with vigorous opposition because a vision of Detroit having a population of more than 150,000 seemed absurd beyond words. Less than forty years ago the boulevard—Grand Boulevard—became a reality as a gravel drive intended primarily for "gentlemen with fast horses and teams," in other words, a speedway for trotters and pacers. Today, Grand Boulevard and Second Avenue mark a new business center of Detroit.

Woodward Avenue, long a main thoroughfare to "uptown" Detroit, is paralleled by Second Avenue, hardly less important. Second Avenue has an offset at Grand Boulevard. The intersection of the two thoroughfares for this reason presented an unique building site that permitted the tower of the Fisher Building to be placed on the axis of the Second Avenue offset. The architects grasped the opportunity thus afforded to develop a type befitting so commanding a site.

From a distance, the Fisher Building looms skyward as a mass of masonry that is interesting in both mass and color. Upon more intimate observation the building presents a dignified composition as well. While one may assume that the facade is a gridiron of masonry and windows, the fact is not forced upon the observer, so skillfully has the handling of the exterior been accomplished.

Unlike the average office building of monotonous flat wall surfaces and numerous windows of uniform size and spacing, the Fisher Building presents an example of a commercial structure wherein the window openings have been rationally grouped and the wall surfaces have been broken up into planes and panels with reason. Here one sees what is, after all, an enormous facade handled in a masterly way.

If the average building tells all its story at first glance, this building will bear looking at many times and yet leave room for further discoveries. As a reaction from the use of severely bald walls and mouldings, barren of interest to the eye, one gradually discovers that the vertical movement of the design has been accentuated by well disposed ornamental details. Not meaningless details for the sake of ornamentation, but forms that are not only symbolic but more or less essential to the composition or design as a whole. In the detail itself, one observes a remarkable variety that is indicative of the thoughtful attention that was put into its conception. If the design is full of interest, almost to overflowing, it is at once apparent that restraint has been a guiding hand. We question whether the most careful analysis of the design would disclose a serious error.

While the exterior cannot be said to lack color, it is gray and neutral when compared with the colorful treatment of the ground story arcade and theatre lobby and foyer. Without the restraint of cost limitations and given an opportunity to make use of numerous materials, it is an easy matter to obtain a bizarre and garrish result devoid of refinement and good taste. It is much to the credit of the architects that the result achieved in the Fisher Building possesses the quality of a beautiful painting secured through the judicious use of numerous colors and the combination of materials.

Impressed by the result obtained, we made inquiry as to what materials had been used and learned that the floor is of Travertine with inlays of various red, brown, yellow and green marbles: wall base–Belgium Black; wainscot–Pyrenees Black and White, Marion Gray and Darosa Vein; wall–St. Genevieve; and pilasters–Yellow Safra, Benou Jaune, Escalette, Escalette Breche, Breche Oriental, Darosa Vein, Light Famosa, Dark Famosa, Rouge Rojé and others of similar character. The theatre lobby has been treated with Belgium Black, Roman Breche and Onyx. The trim around elevator doors is Levanto marble. The ceiling in the vestibule is St. Genevieve marble; the main arcade, richly painted murals; theatre lobby, painted plaster panels; and elevator lobbies, gold leaf. Bronze has been discreetly used for elevator doors, pilaster caps, floor inserts, grilles and railings. The effect is decidedly pleasing to the eye, rich and warm, yet refined and knowingly handled in a simple, direct manner.

To erect a large office building in a newly developed business center was in a measure a pioneer adventure. The structure as completed at this time represents about one-third of the building ultimately contemplated. The present vision is a second unit duplicating the first and a large tower dominating the whole as the third unit. Either singly or as a part of a building to be, the Fisher Building is one of the outstanding buildings erected in 1928.

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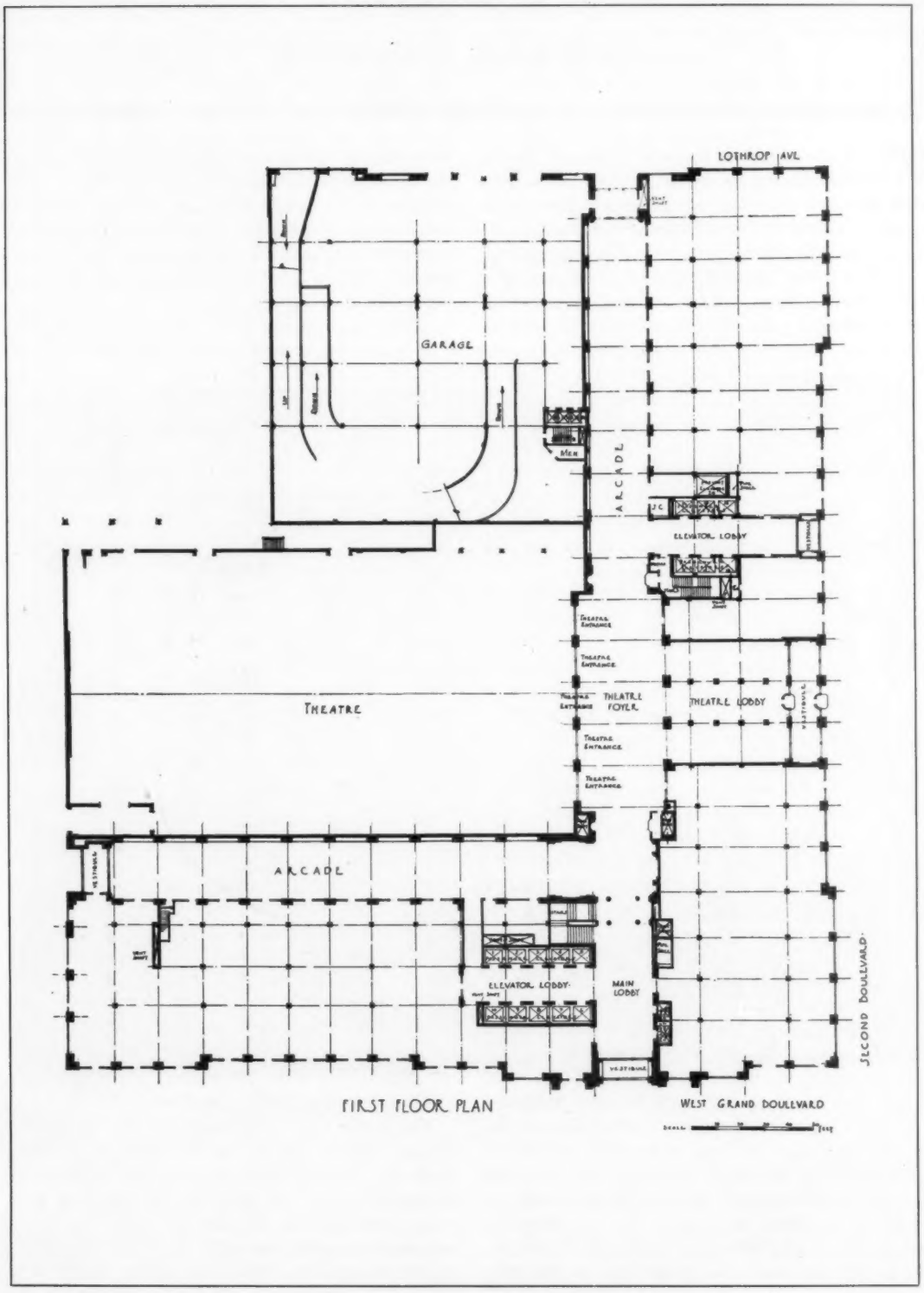
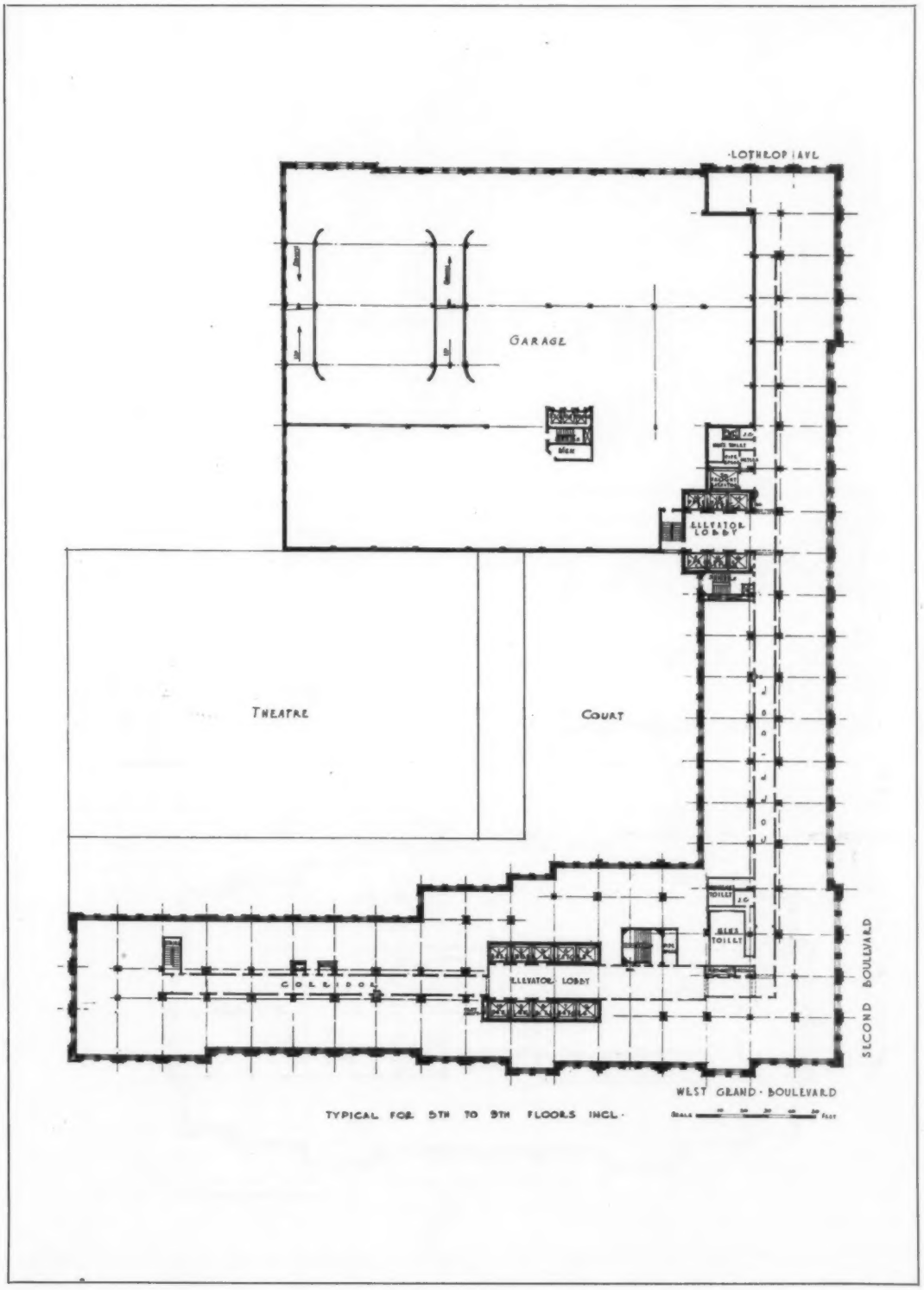


FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS



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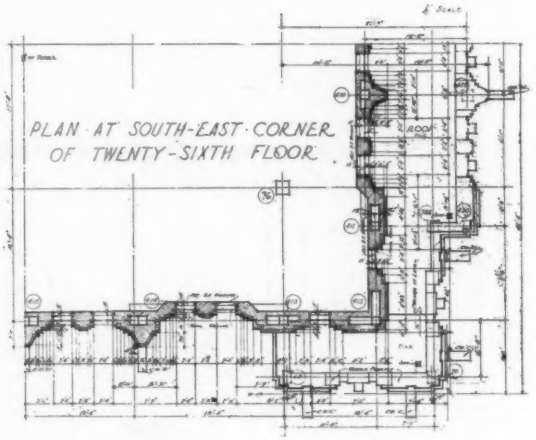
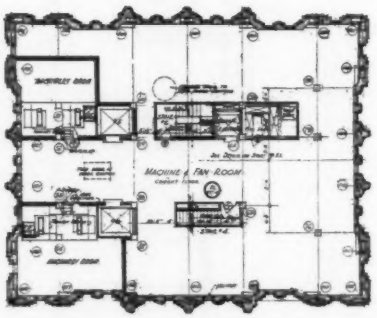
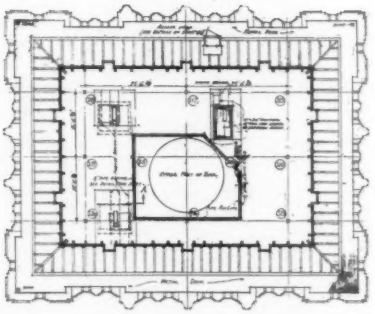
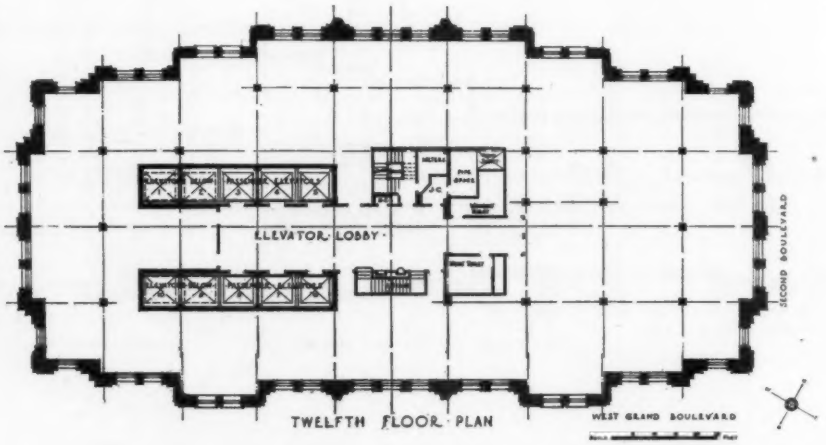




TWENTY-SEVENTH FLOOR PLAN



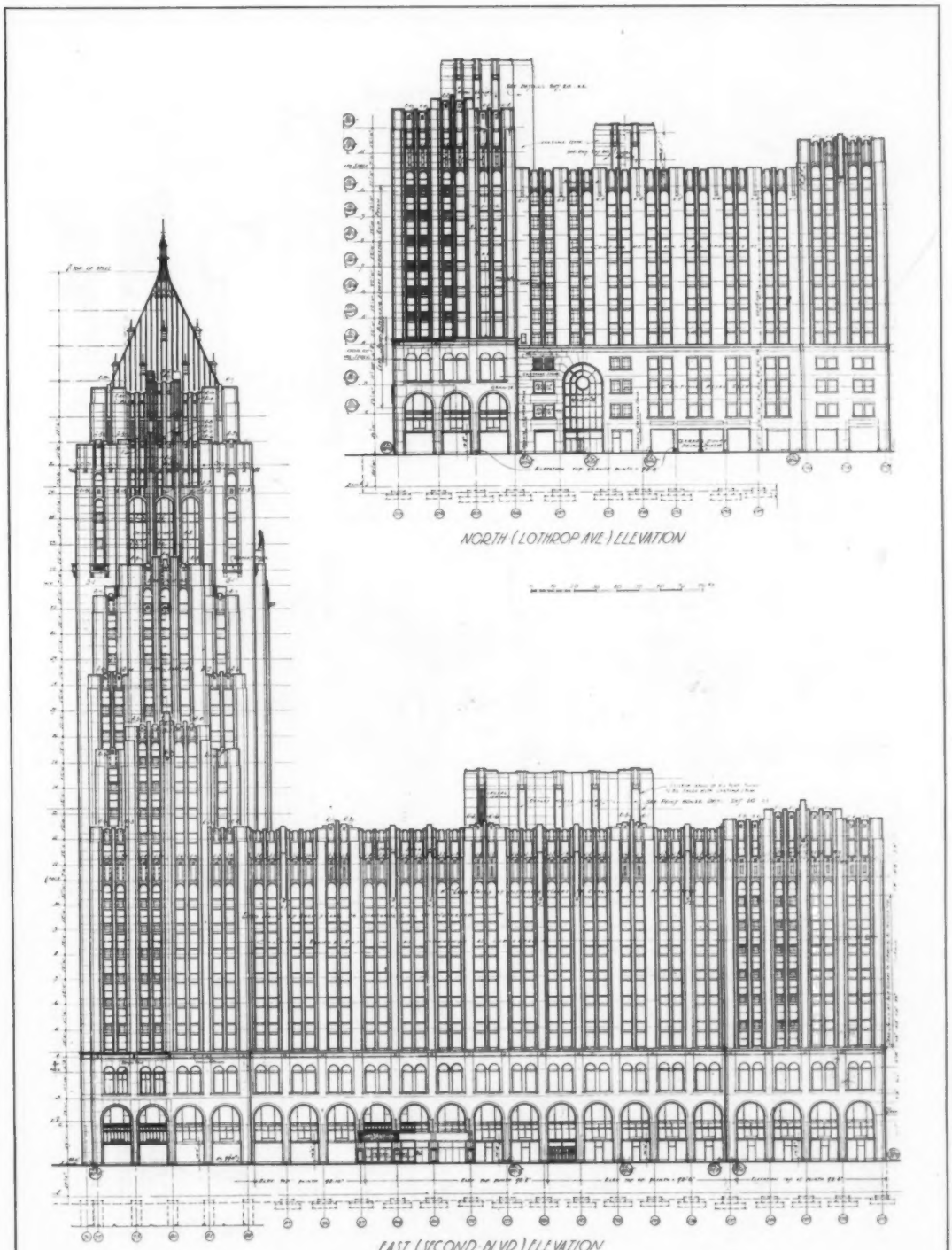
PLAN ABOVE PARAPET WALL



TWELFTH FLOOR PLAN

FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS



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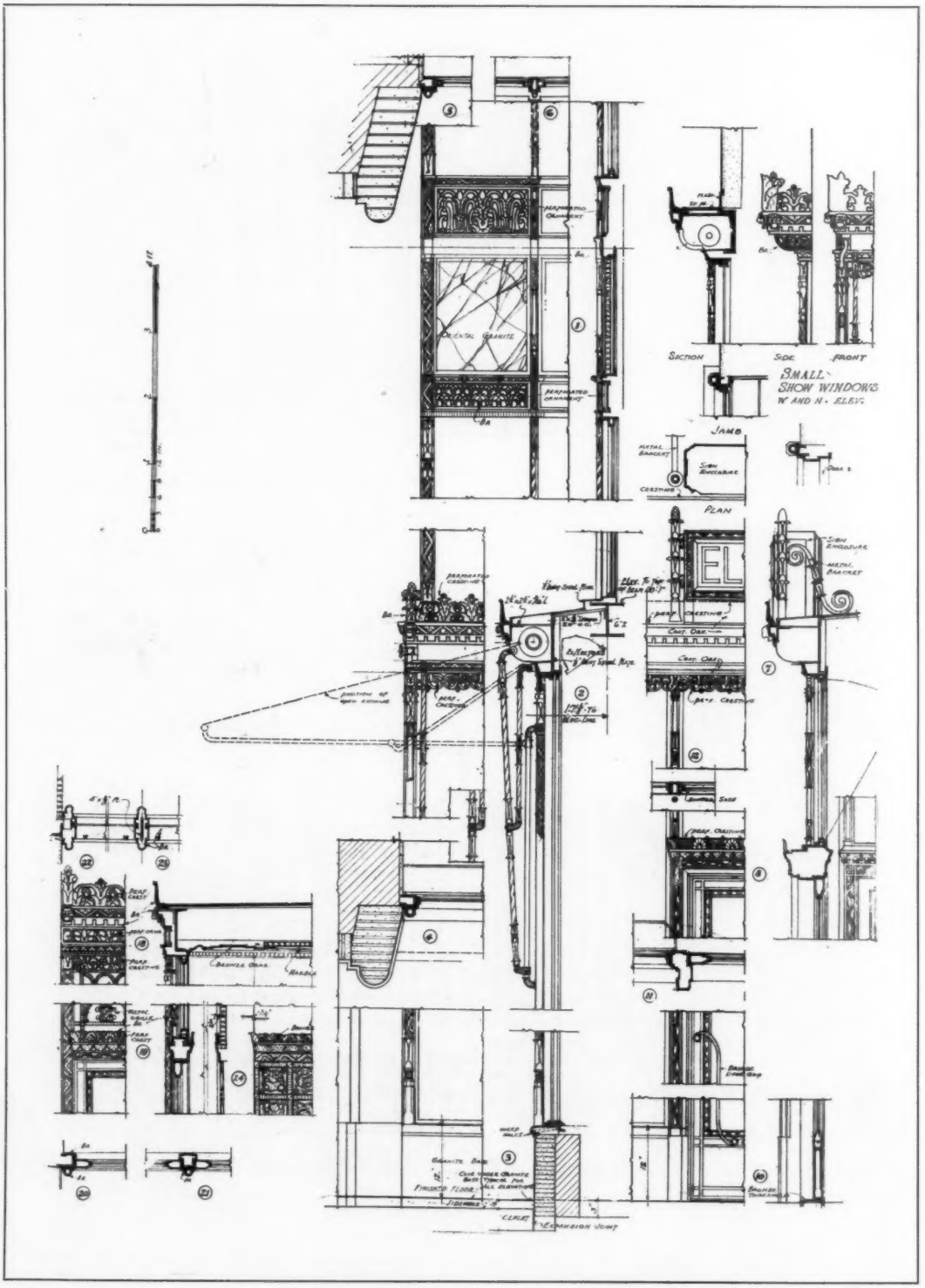
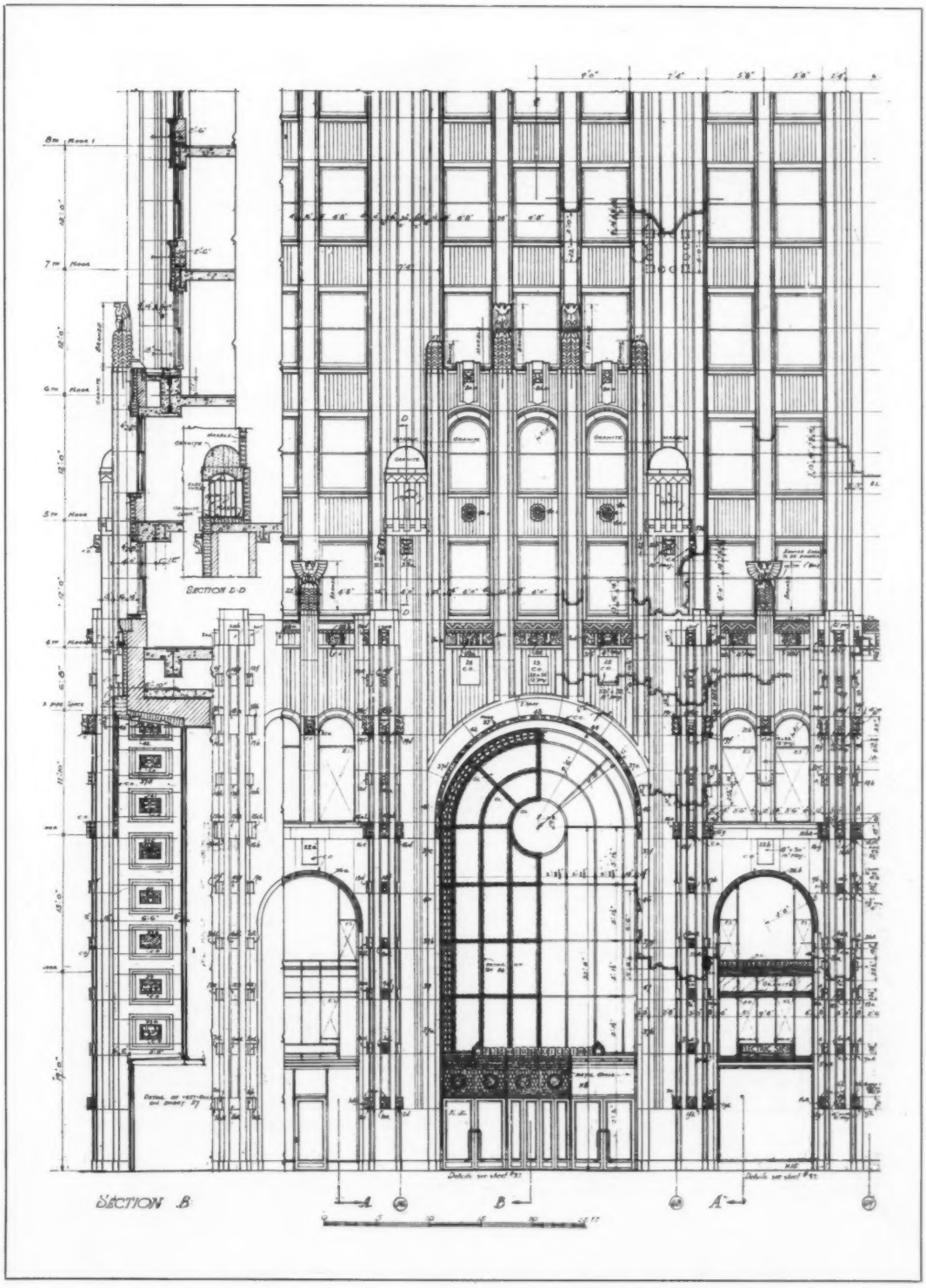


SHOP WINDOW DETAILS, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

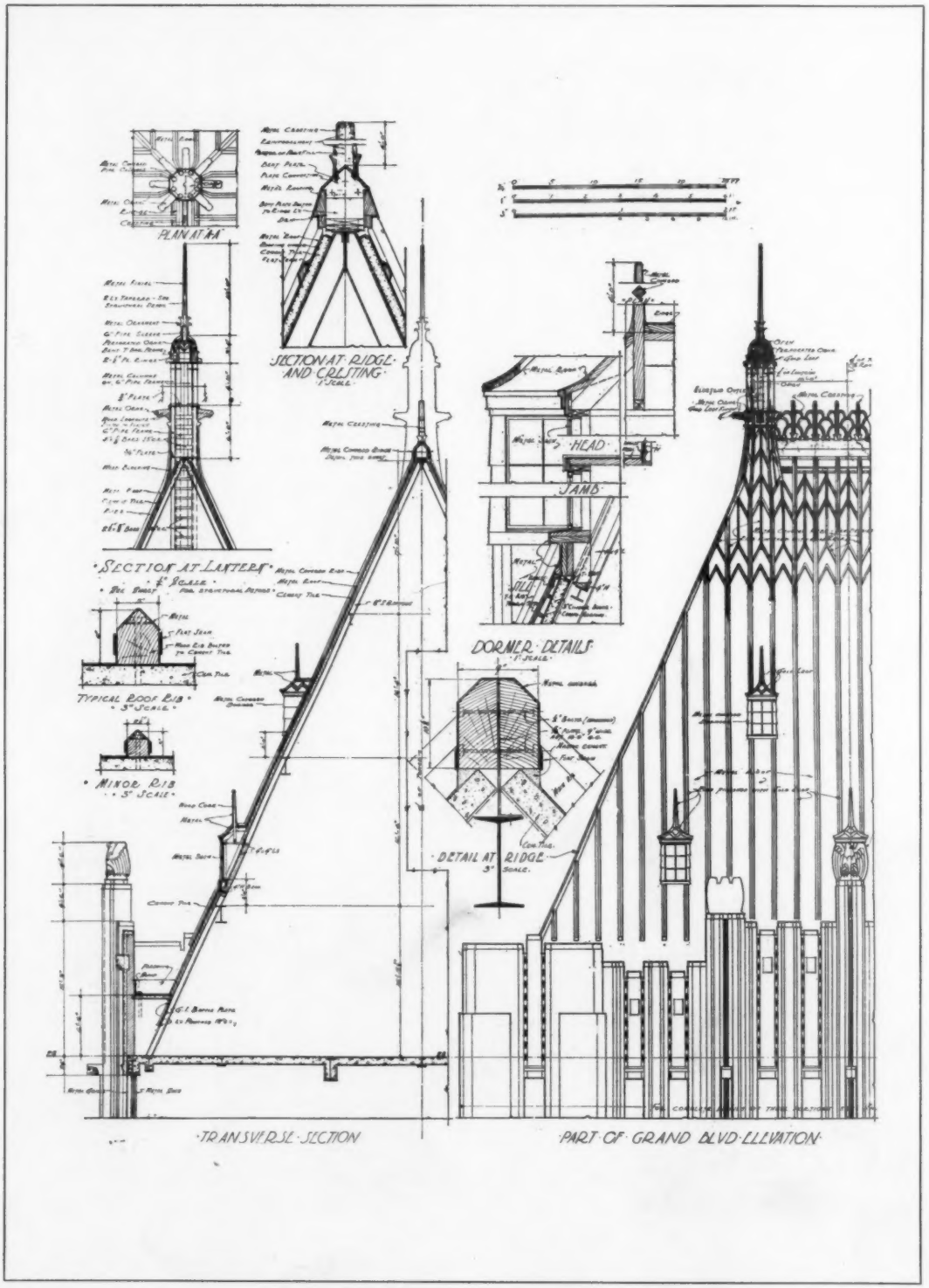
ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS



DETAIL OF GRAND BOULEVARD ENTRANCE, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

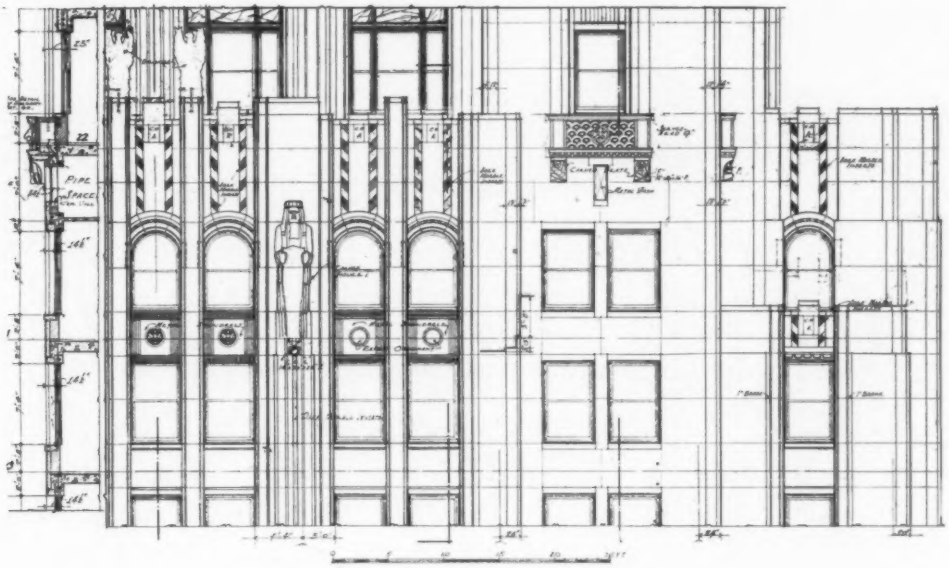
ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

XUM

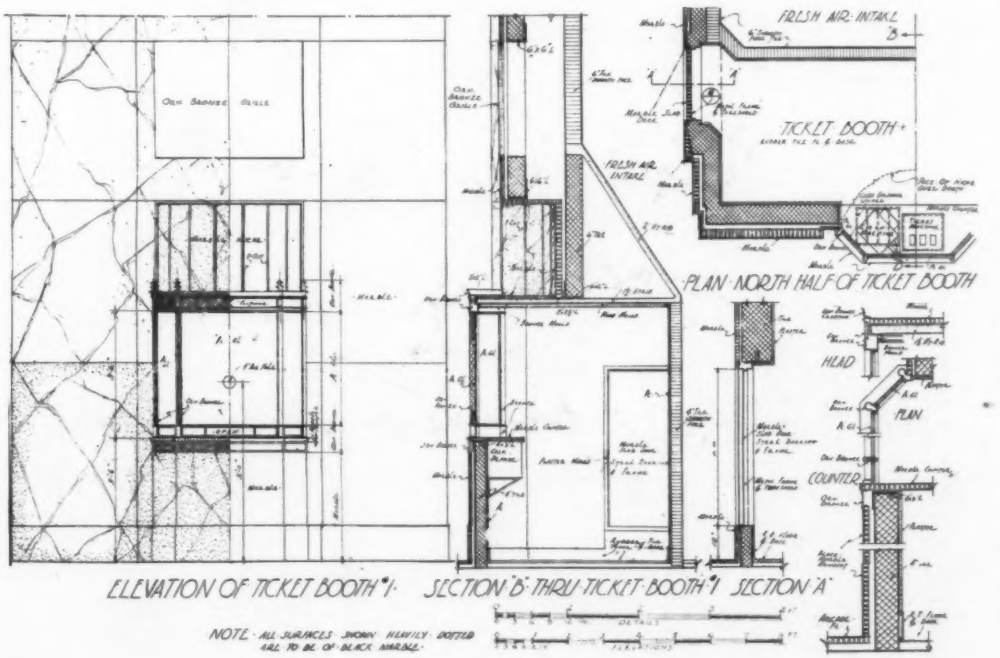


DETAILS OF TOWER ROOF, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS



NORTH ELEVATION OF TOWER, 20TH TO 22ND FLOORS



DETAILS OF THE FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

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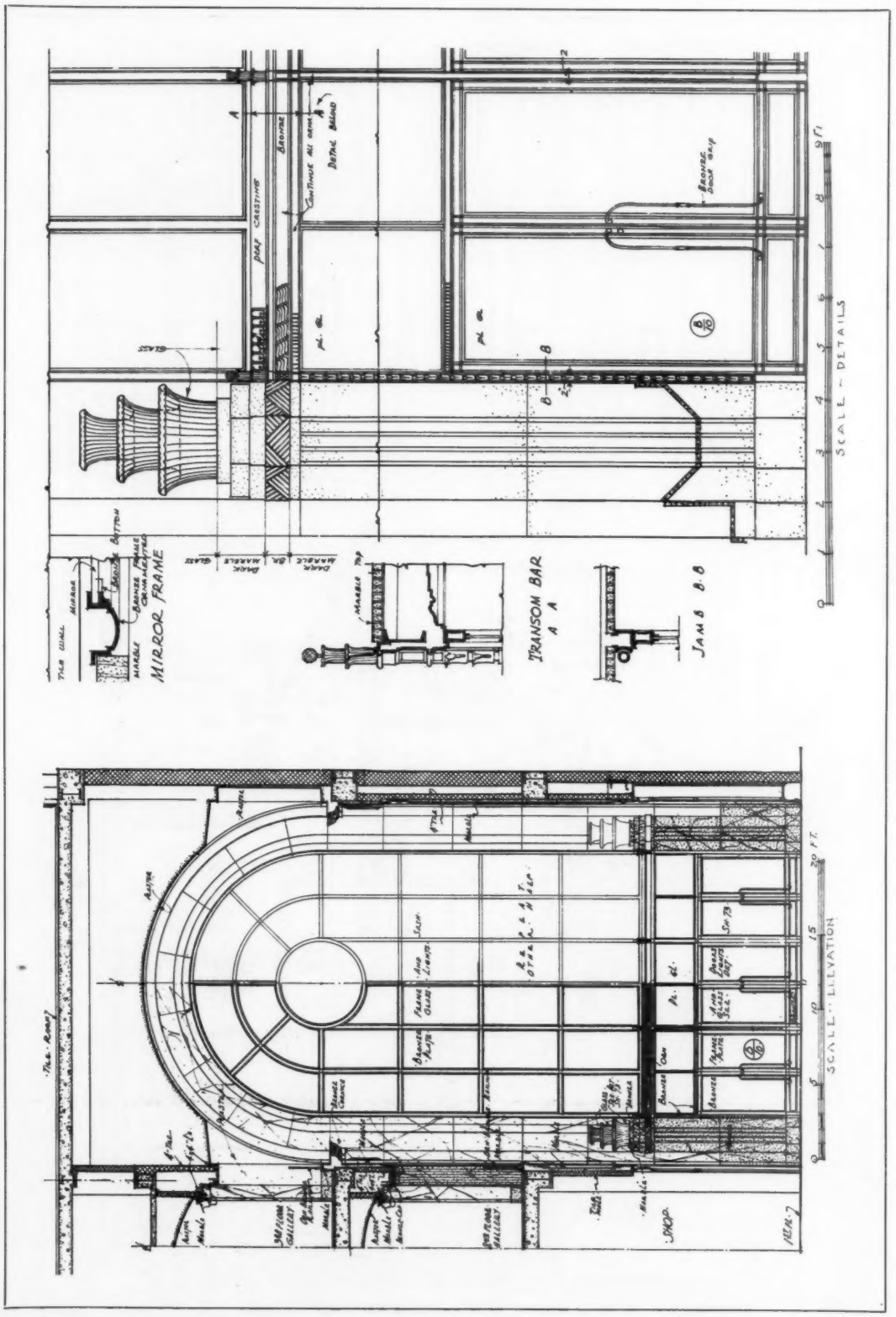
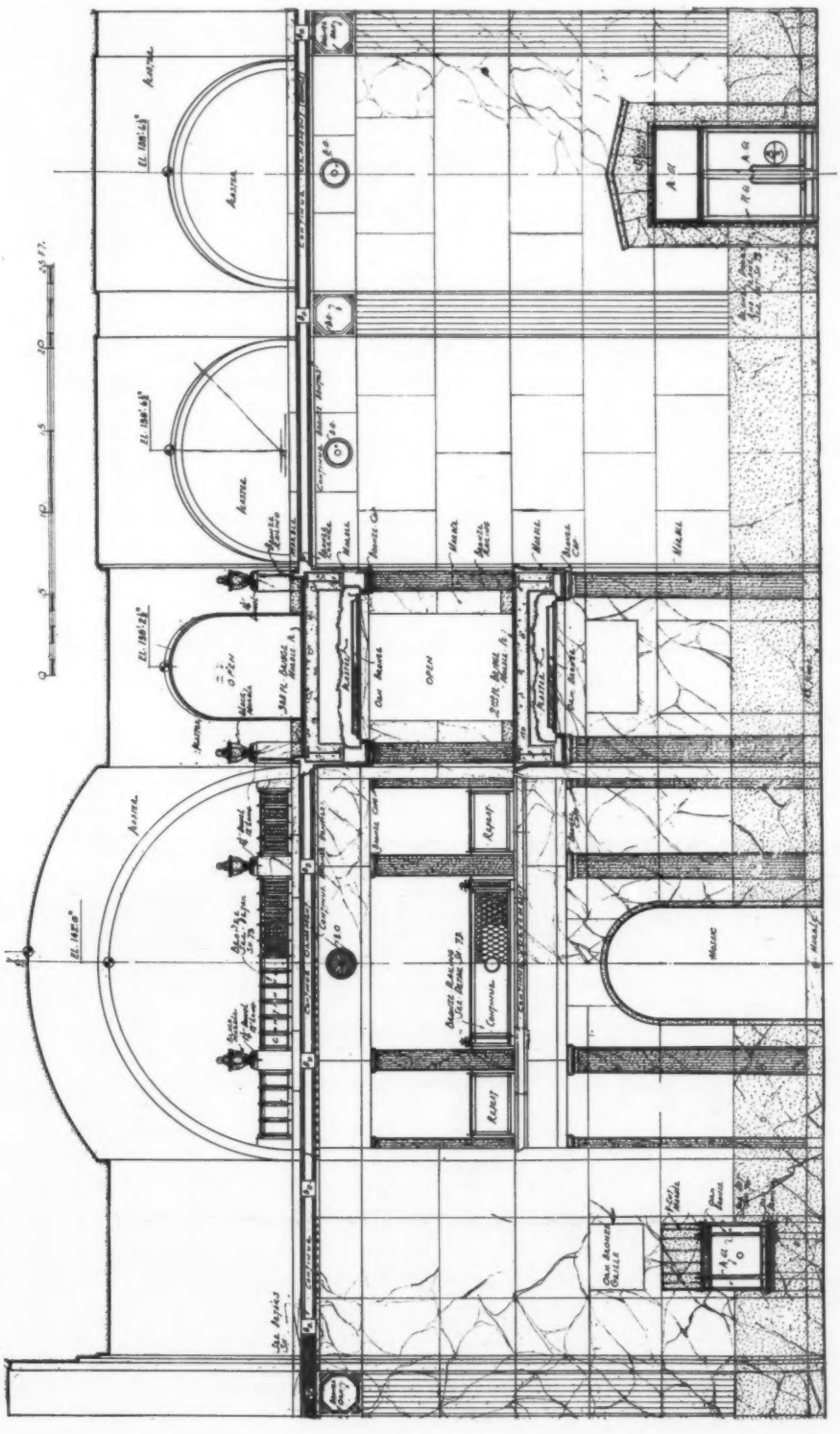


DETAILS OF WEST END OF ARCADE, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

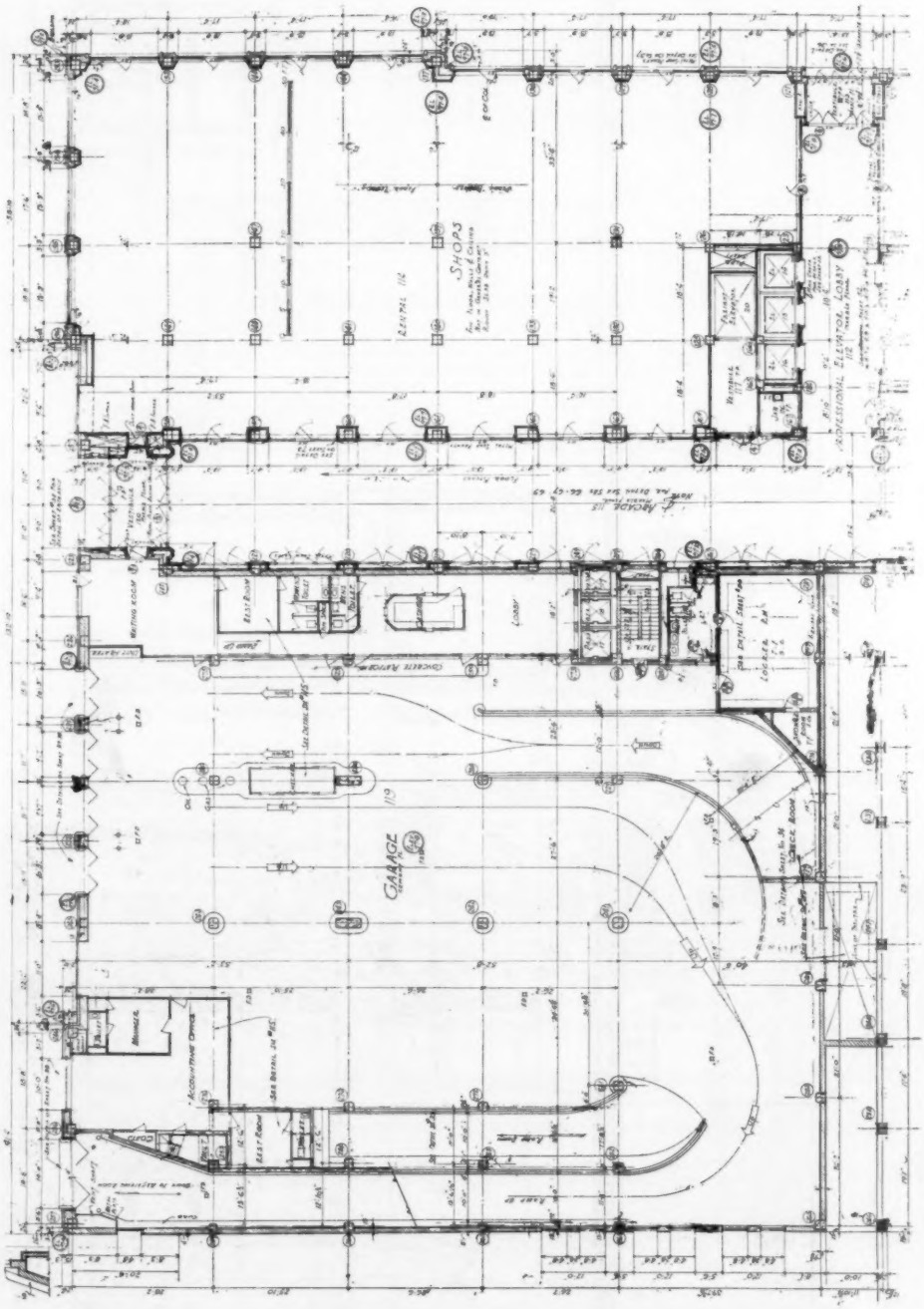
ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS



EAST WALL, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.
ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

XUM



GARAGE FIRST FLOOR PLAN AND PORTION OF SHOPS, FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

XUM

FISHER BUILDING GARAGE

ALBERT KAHN, INC., *Architects*

EAGLES MODELED BY PROFESSOR G. R. MAROTI

THE Fisher Building garage is an eleven story structure, 150 x 160 feet, constructed as an integral part of the first unit of the Fisher Building. The garage will accommodate 1,100 cars, and is intended primarily as a convenience to the tenants of the office building. As a result entrance may be had to the garage not only from the street but from each floor of the office building as well.

In the design of this unit, every consideration was subordinated to convenience of operations. An interesting feature of the garage is the use of a double ramp system, to eliminate interference between up and down traffic. The banking of the ramps to facilitate the steering of cars moving at speeds between fifteen and thirty miles per hour was first calculated on a theoretical basis. A full size model was constructed in accordance with the theoretical calculations, on the proving grounds of the General Motors Company. A series of experiments were conducted on this model. The ramps as actually constructed are a combination of the theoretical calculations and the changes found desirable from actual tests on the model. Concrete beams and slabs are formed to follow the contours of the ramp. A minimum clear height of 8 feet 2 inches was obtained at all parts of the ramp.

Parking aisles are fifty-two feet wide from center to center of the columns. To keep the column sizes as small as possible, steel cores were used as reinforcement. The steel columns were furnished with steel brackets to carry the concrete beams. Holes were burned in the webs of the columns to obtain top and bottom continuity steel. The columns were erected in two or three story lengths, ahead of the concrete construction. No steel tie beams were used between columns.

The concrete floor arches span fifty-two feet, and are kept within a depth of thirty inches with a four-inch haunched slab and parallel beams spaced nine feet on centers. Due to the long span of the supported floor special provision was made in the spandrel beams to care for torsion stresses.

Photo by Manning Bros.

ENTRANCE DOORS SHOWING OPERATING GEAR OVERHEAD

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

XUM

A three story addition was added over a portion of the garage after the main building had been completed. To reduce the dead load of this construction, the concrete was mixed with a special aggregate, yielding a mix that is about two-thirds the weight of ordinary stone or gravel concrete, but having equal strength.

The concrete of the garage portion was poured in the coldest part of the winter. As soon as forms were up the area under the floor was inclosed with tarpaulins. An average temperature of 90° F. was maintained by the use of salamanders while pouring and for some time thereafter and the surface of the slab was protected with marsh grass covering.

The garage is sound-proofed from the remainder of the building with cinder block and other special insulating materials.

A pedestrian tunnel was built to connect the basement of the Fisher Building with that of the General Motors Building across the Grand Boulevard. It is 13 feet 4 inches wide and 9 feet 6 inches high. The 16-inch top slab is designed to support the pavement and the liveload due to an 18-ton truck. The 14-inch walls are reinforced to carry pavement and tunnel across future subway excavations with a minimum of shoring.

FISHER BUILDING STATISTICS

Office Building	11 stories
Tower	28 stories
Length on Grand Boulevard	323 feet
Length on Second Avenue	375 feet
Tower Height	442 feet
Foundations	
Depth below surface	142 feet
Excavation	98,000 cubic yards
Open Caissons	8,700 lineal feet
Gravel Used in Construction	20,000 cubic yards
Cement	41,000 barrels
Concrete Forms	46,000 sq. feet
Structural Steel	12,000 tons
Wind Bracing. Designed for	15 pounds per sq. ft. pressure
Garage	11 stories
Size	150 ft. x 160 ft.
Capacity	1,100 cars
Theatre (Graven & Mayger, Architects)	
Size	118 ft. x 214 ft.
Seats	2,800
Ventilating System	
Fans	40 motor driven
Refrigerating Plant	3 carbondioxide machines
Barber Shop, 20 tons capacity	Air cooled 7,900 cu. ft. per minute
Bank, 30 tons capacity	Air cooled 11,000 cu. ft. per minute
Cafeteria, 50 tons capacity	Air cooled 16,400 cu. ft. per minute
Water Supply	
City Pressure System	Two 300 gallons per minute centrifugal pumps to two 8 ft. diameter, 16 ft. long tanks on 13th floor
High Pressure System	Two 200 gallons per minute pumps to two 8 ft. diameter, 8 ft. long tanks in tower attic
Fire Pumps	Two in sub-basement
Tank	50,000 gallon gravity
Electrical Installation	
Total Connected Load	6,210 k. w.
Transformer Capacity	3,700 k. v. a.
Lighting Circuits	3,760
Lighting Outlets	9,785
Flood Lighting Projectors	550
Cove Lighting	2,600 feet
Cove Lighting Load	330,000 watts
Wire and Cable	1,375,000 feet
Conduit	600,000 feet
Underfloor Duct	148,000 feet
Pre-set Inserts	67,000
Primary Service	4,600 volts, three phase, 60 cycle
Telephone Installation	
Main Distributing Frame	15,000 pairs
Station Wire	8,000 feet
Various Sized Cable	38,750 feet
Cable Pairs	2,388,700 feet
Wire	4,777,400 conductor ft. or 905.35 miles
Under-floor Duct	145,000 feet
Inserts for 100 Pair No. 24 Gauge Cable	76,500
Conduit	50,000 feet
Distributing Cabinets in Riser Shafts	395

XUM

WASH RACKS, SHOWING MOVABLE WASHING EQUIPMENT ON OVERHEAD TRACK

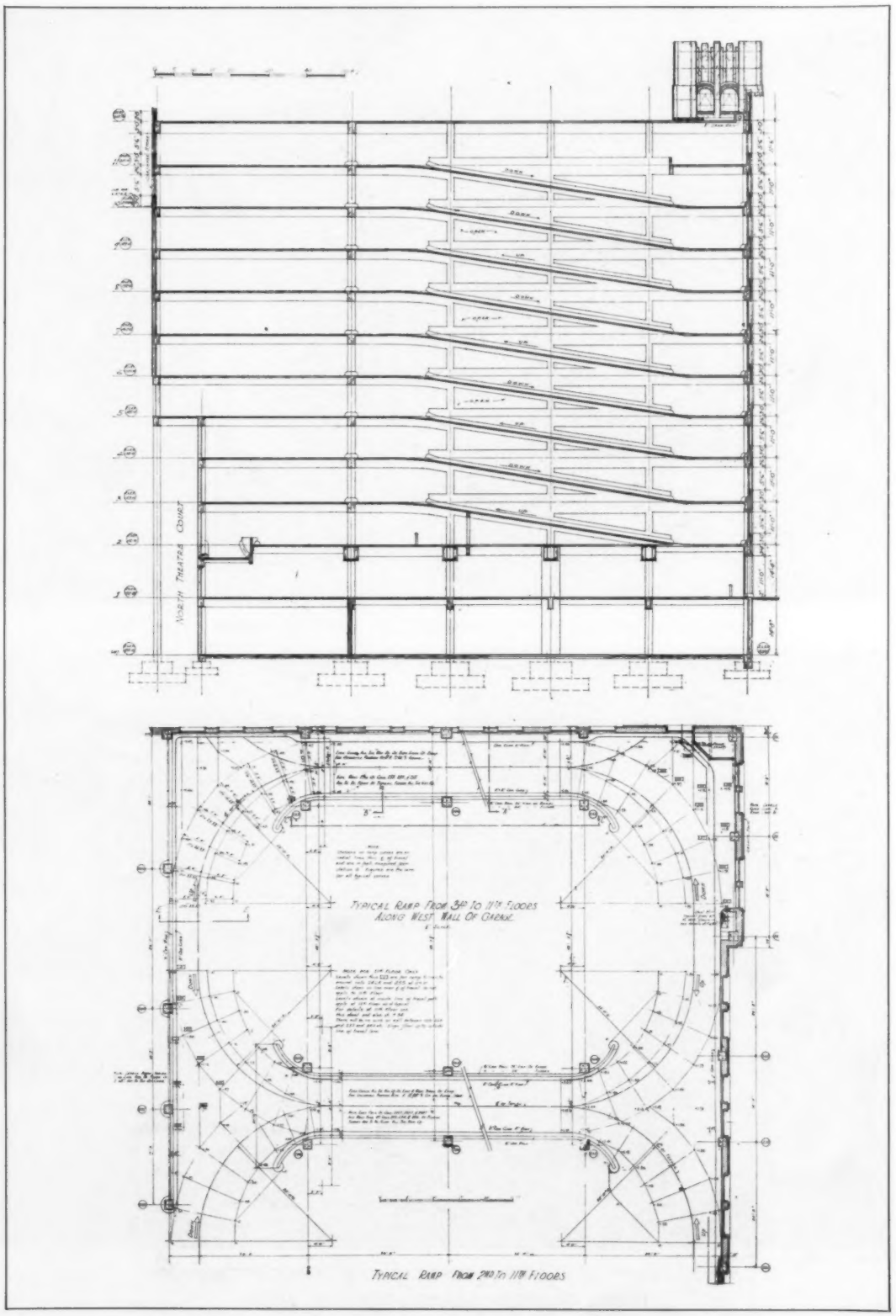
Photos by Manning Bros.

A DOUBLE RAMP SYSTEM ELIMINATES UP AND DOWN TRAFFIC INTERFERENCE

FISHER BUILDING GARAGE, DETROIT, MICH.

ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

XUM



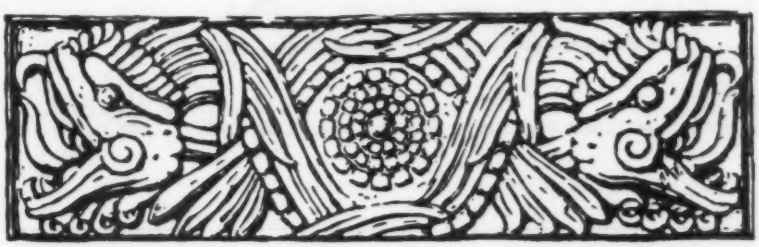
FISHER BUILDING GARAGE, DETROIT, MICH.—ALBERT KAHN, INC., ARCHITECTS

THE FISHER THEATRE

GRAVEN & MAYGER
Architects

LEIBERMAN & HEIN
Engineers

In turning to the architecture of the Mayas, a particularly fruitful source of inspiration was found for designing the interior of the Fisher Theatre. The civilization of the Mayas existed from about 100 B. C. to 1600 or 1700 A. D. Existing records indicate that the Mayas enjoyed a highly developed civilization and they are the only ancient inhabitants of America who left behind them well developed architectural monuments. They are stated to have been "the only people on the American continents who developed an original system of beautifully designed hieroglyphics which were carved or painted on their temples, pyramids, palaces and monuments." The Mayas are also stated to have been "the greatest sculptors in ancient America." ॐ ॐ ॐ Art critics have placed Mayan sculpture among the world's greatest developments in plastic art. Paint played an important part in Mayan sculpture, the colors ranging through several shades of red, blue and yellows, and green, orange, brown, black and white. ॐ ॐ ॐ Carving, inlaid mosaics, textile weaving, metal working and pottery making may be included among the highly developed arts of this race. The Mayan religion, being polytheistic, offered numerous gods and goddesses as subjects for sculptors and carvers. ॐ ॐ ॐ This brief outline of the source from which the decorations in the Fisher Theatre are taken can only suggest the wealth of material through which the imagination of the designers could roam. ॐ ॐ ॐ The decorative panels bordering the proscenium arch are taken from the hieroglyphic symbols of the eighteen Mayan months. Two colossal human figures, copied from monuments at the Old Empire City of Quirigua, flank the proscenium. Above the organ screen, on either side, are representations in colored tiles of the so-called Great Turtle of Quirigua. The mezzanine columns in the lobby are reproductions of the Feathered Serpent columns found in the temples at Chichen Itza. Colors found in the Mayan palette have been freely used throughout the theatre.



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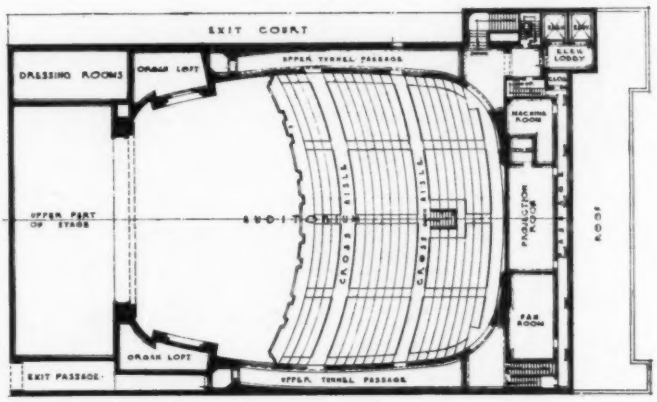
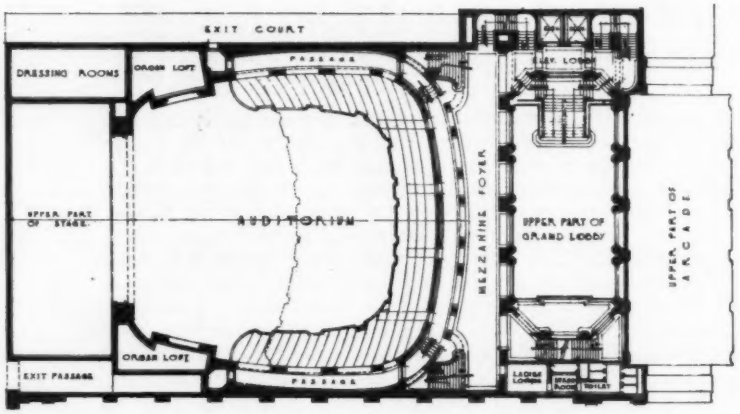
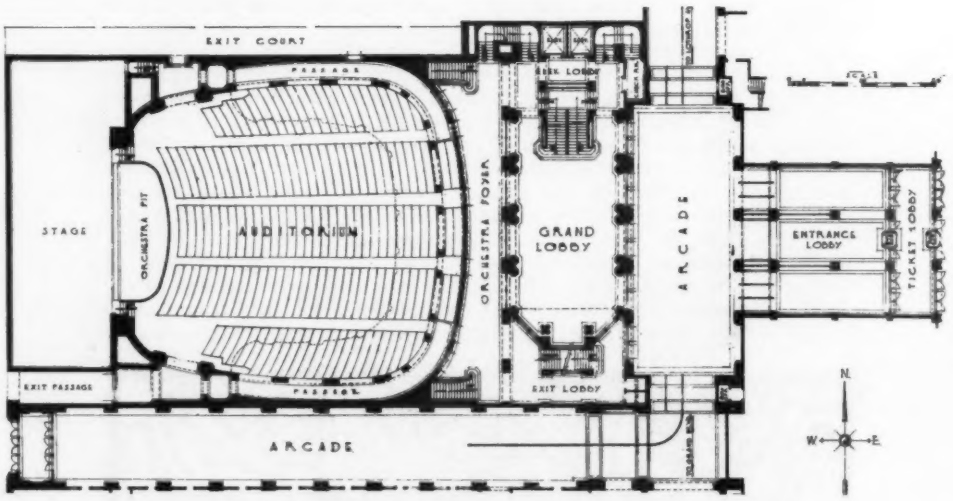


BALCONY PLAN

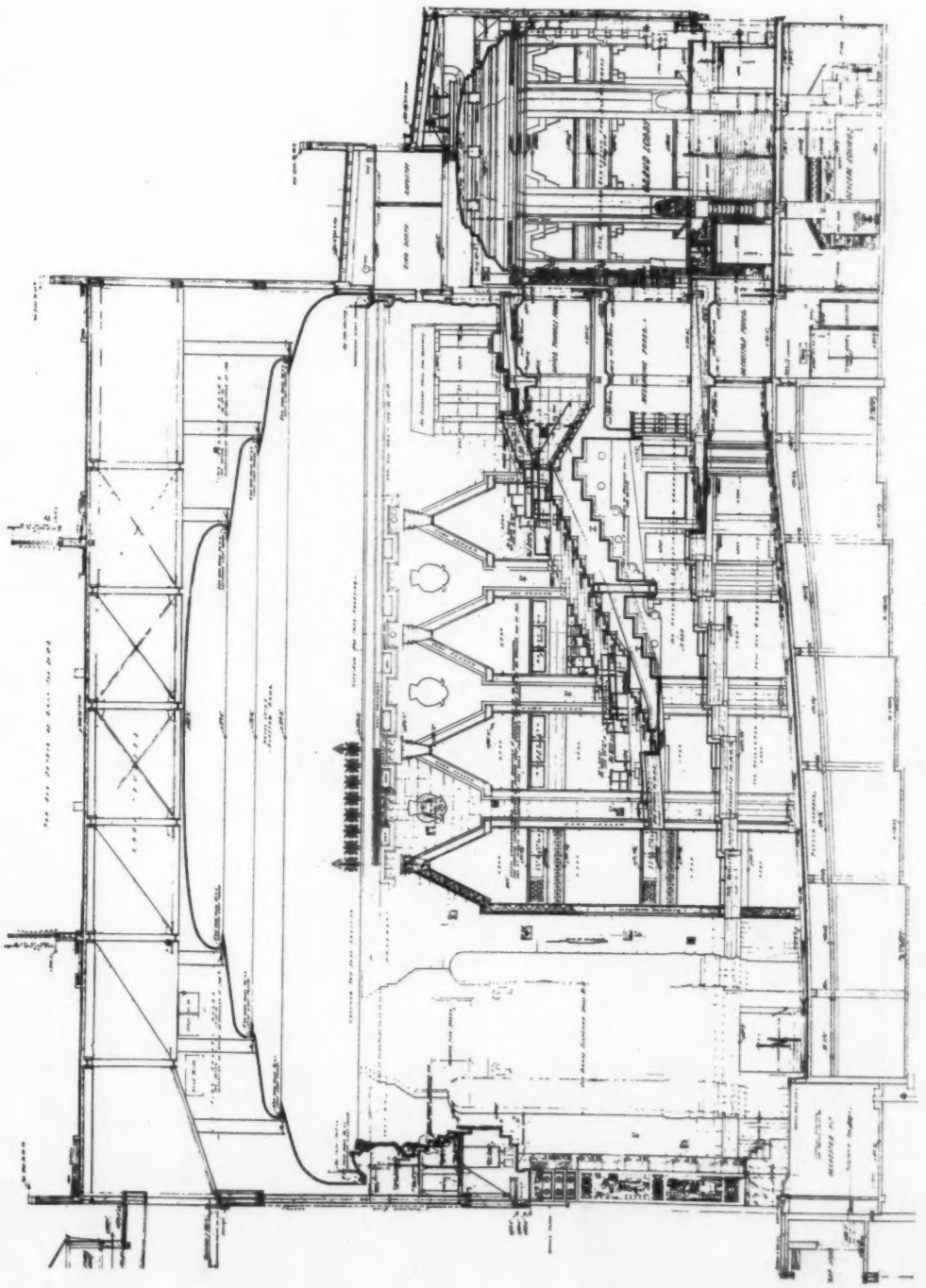


MEZZANINE FLOOR PLAN



ORCHESTRA FLOOR PLAN

FISHER THEATRE, DETROIT, MICH.—GRAVEN & MAYGER, ARCHITECTS



LONGITUDINAL SECTION THROUGH AUDITORIUM AND LOBBY

FISHER THEATRE, DETROIT, MICH.—GRAVEN & MAYGER, ARCHITECTS

FISHER THEATRE, DETROIT, MICH.—GRAVEN & MAYGER, ARCHITECTS

XUM

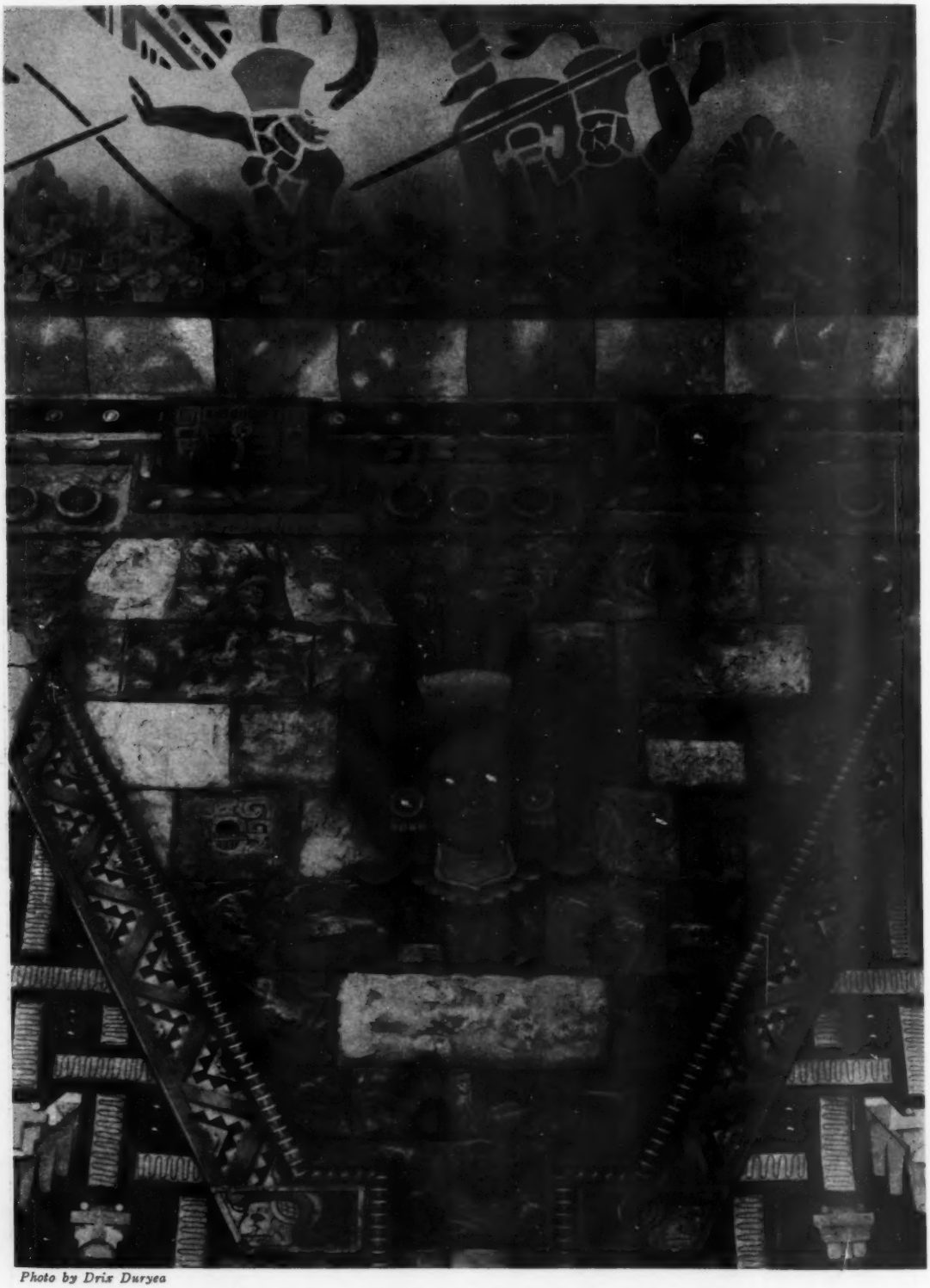


Photo by Drix Duryea

AUDITORIUM DETAIL, FISHER THEATRE, DETROIT, MICH.

GRAVEN & MAYGER, ARCHITECTS

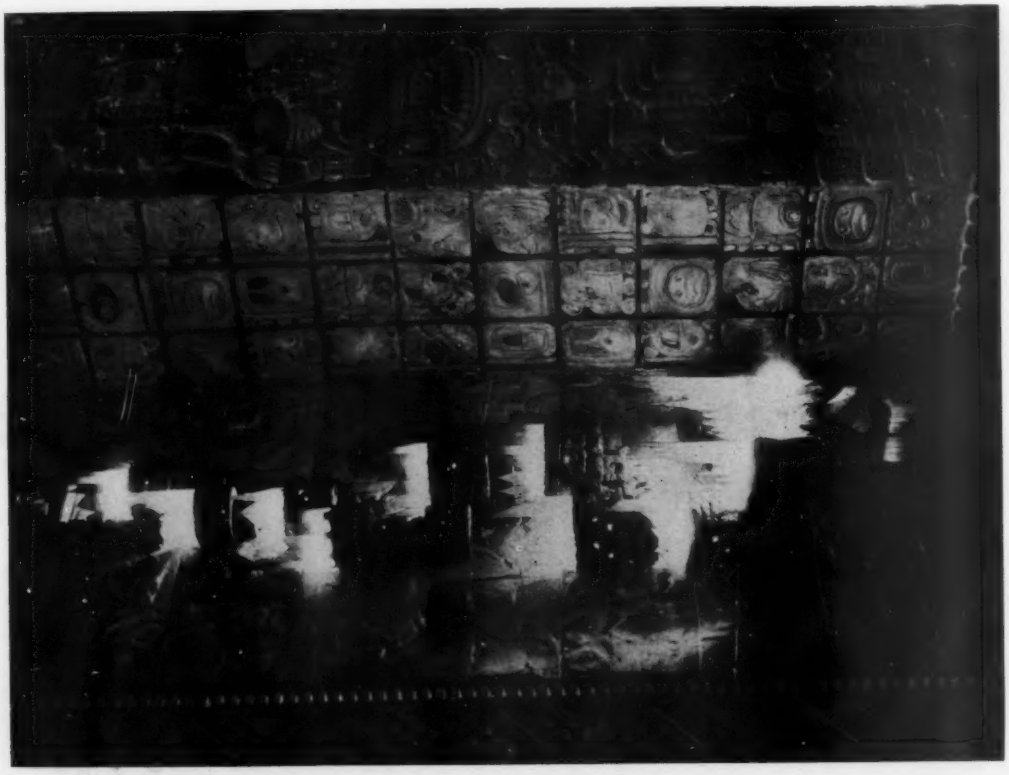
XUM

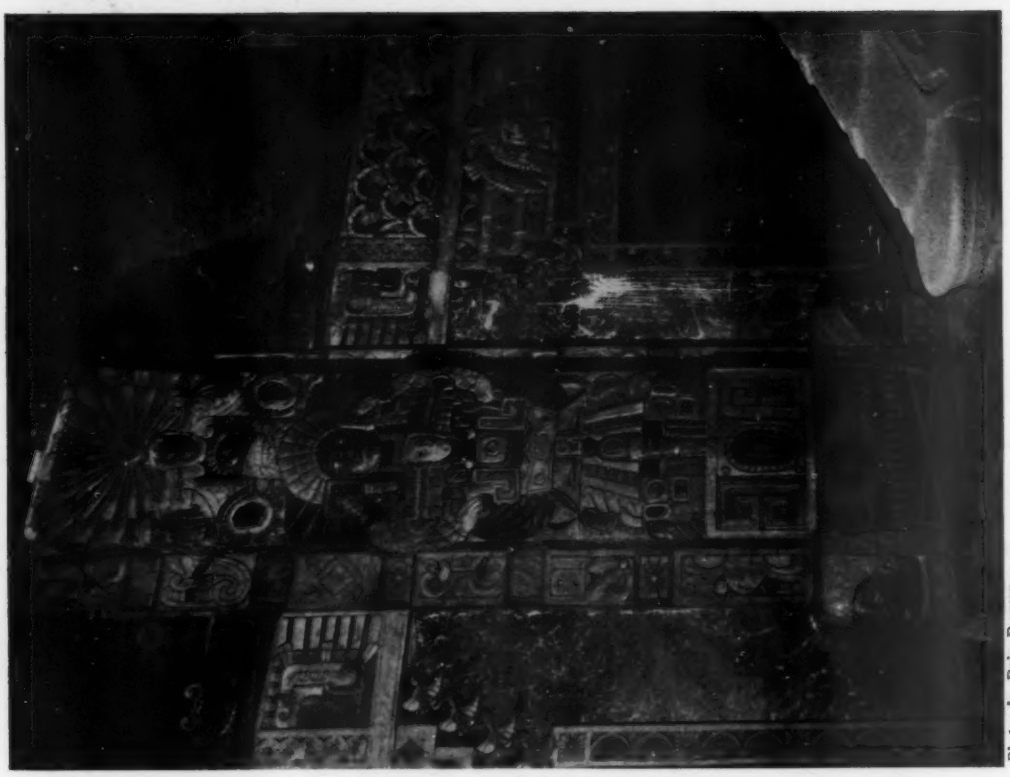
Photo by Drix Duryea

DETAIL OF THEATRE LOBBY AND BALCONY STAIRS, FISHER THEATRE, DETROIT, MICH.

GRAVEN & MAYGER, ARCHITECTS

XUM

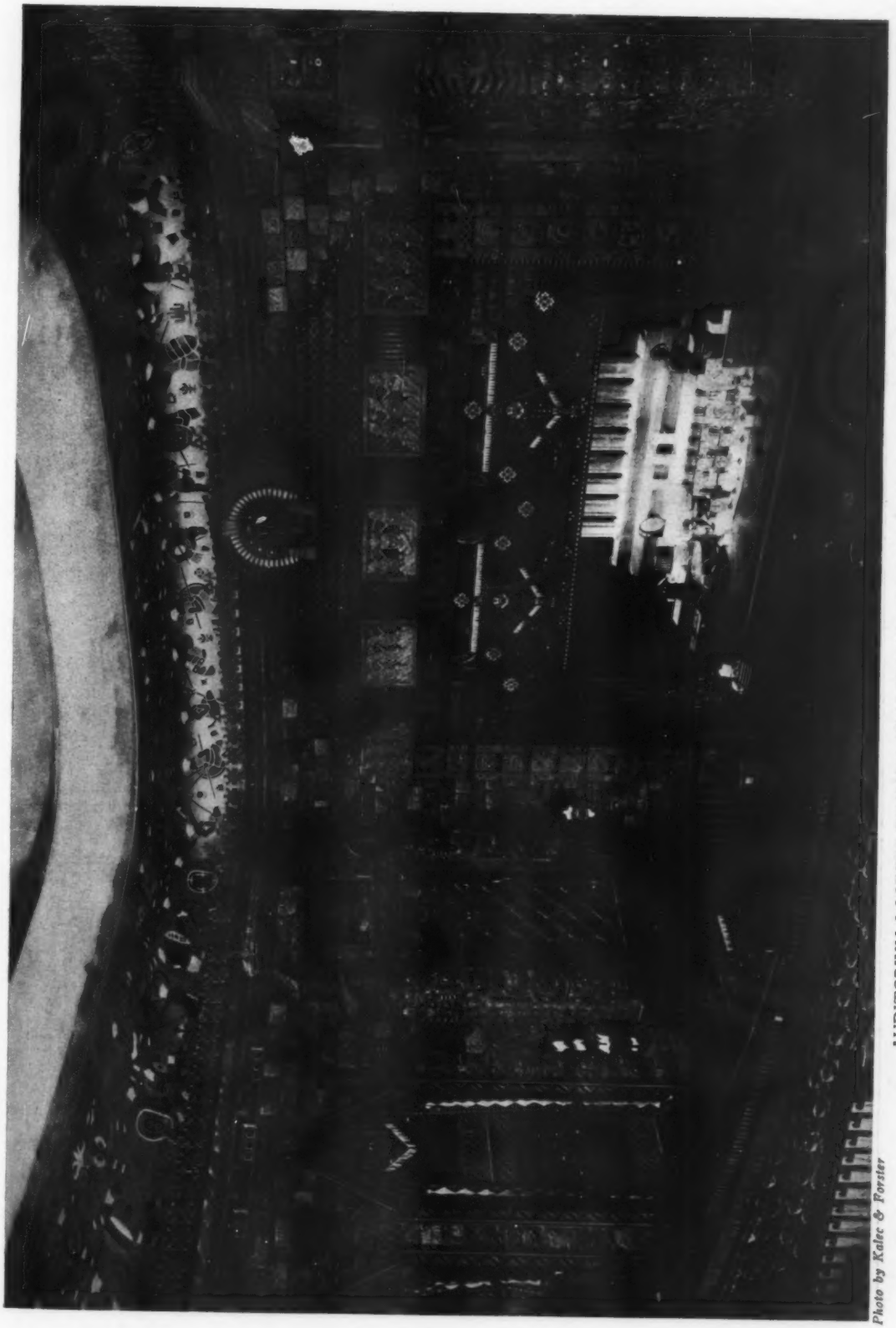




AUDITORIUM DETAILS, FISHER THEATRE, DETROIT, MICH.
GRAVEN & MAYGER, ARCHITECTS

Photos by Dris Duryea

XUM



AUDITORIUM LOOKING TOWARD PROSCENIUM, FISHER THEATRE, DETROIT, MICH.
GRAVEN & MAYGER, ARCHITECTS

Photo by Kalve & Forster

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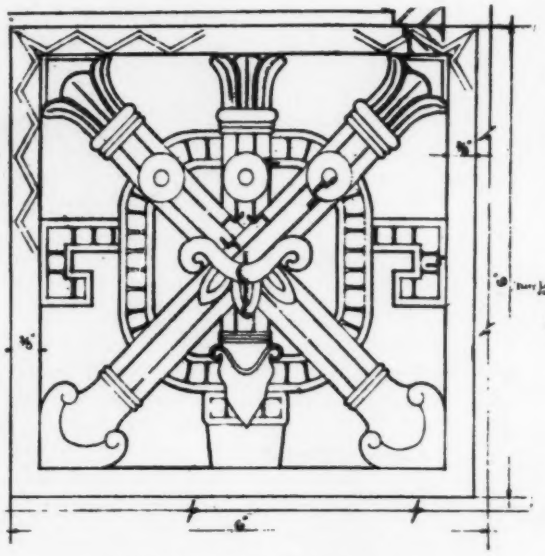
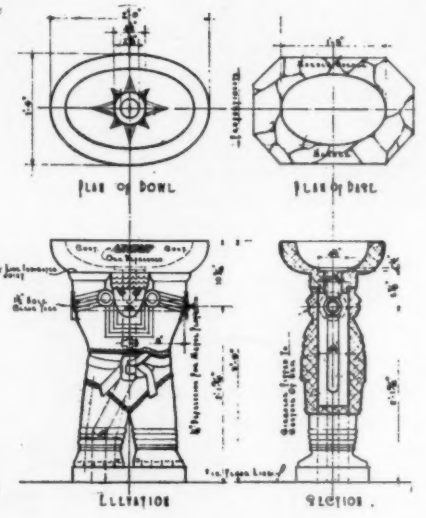
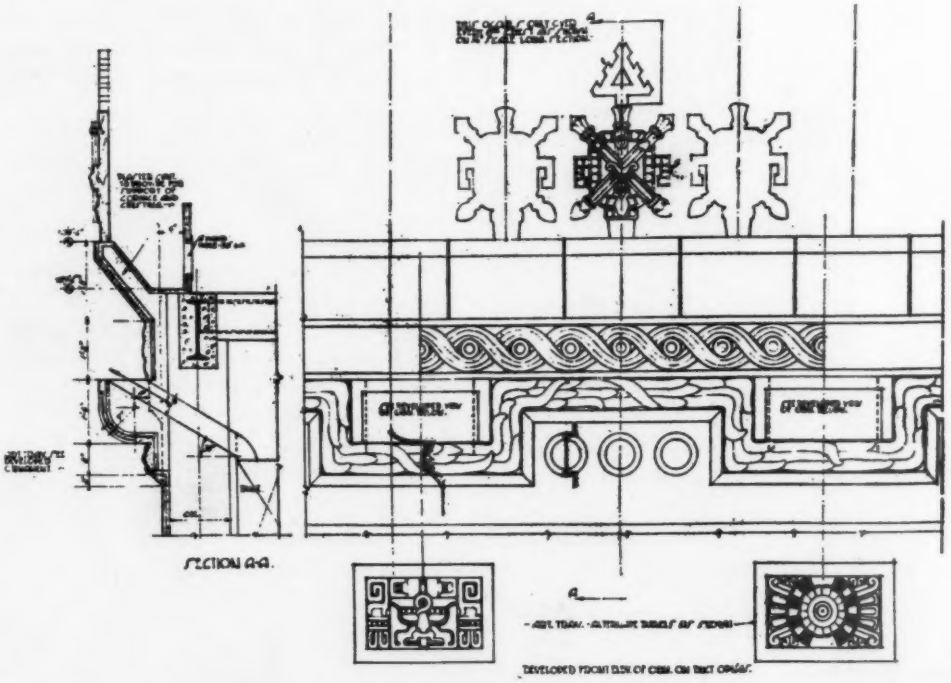


CAST IRON RADIATOR GRILLE



TERRA COTTA DRINKING FOUNTAIN



AUDITORIUM CORNICE DETAILS

FISHER THEATRE, DETROIT, MICH.

GRAVEN & MAYGER, ARCHITECTS

SPECIFICATIONS

Communications relative to specifications addressed to THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT *will be answered, in the pages of this department, by H. R. Dowswell, of the office of Shreve & Lamb, Architects.*

THE New York Building Congress Standard Specifications for Masonry, Part B, presented in this issue, are the result of many conferences with leading authorities in New York City specializing in this division of the building industry. The standards finally adopted have been approved by the Committee appointed by the Mason Builders' Association of New York under the Chairmanship of Mr. Frederick T. Youngs. They should therefore assist in solving many of the difficulties which continually arise in the interpretation of Masonry Specifications. The successful use of these specifications, however, as in all other trade divisions, depends largely on the care with which Part A is written. These specifications are used to supplement Part A in the same manner as was outlined for Excavating in the January 5th issue.

Paragraph 5 specifically places the furnishing of scaffolding, hoisting and other equipment, required for the execution of Masonry work, in the work of this division. If the Architect wishes to modify this requirement it is merely necessary to enumerate, in Part A, the division under which such equipment is to be furnished.

Practice regarding the furnishing of materials for setting, parging and pointing Cut Stone varies with different offices. This item is left to be specified under Part A, the reference, in this specification, serving as a check for the specification writer.

The locating of slots, chases, recesses, et cetera, required to receive work of other trades, has frequently led to controversy. A blanket clause placing the entire responsibility upon the contractor for Masonry is manifestly unfair. Unfortunately general construction drawings all too frequently fail to indicate requirements in this regard and the Architect, rather than face a legitimate extra, falls back on a blanket clause. It is believed that the requirements of Paragraphs 6 and 7 are fair.

Paragraph 11 refers to the Specifications for Masonry & Concrete Materials printed in the February 5th issue. They should be carefully checked when writing Part A Specifications for Masonry and the correct paragraph references enumerated.

Many architects prefer to limit the choice of materials to products of certain manufacturers. This has been provided for under Paragraph 12, it being merely necessary to list the preferred products under Part A.

Cement mortar for brickwork is now practically standard practice. If, however, it is desired to vary this practice, Part A should specify the kind of mortar desired.

Paragraphs 14, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 33, 36, 40 and 48 all deal with items of work which vary in different types of buildings or with office practice. Part A should therefore specify the requirements in each case.

Paragraphs 45 and 46 covering "Patching" also deal with a much disputed item. This matter has been given a great deal of consideration and the paragraphs as written are considered fair.

A.I.A. DIVISION 5.

STANDARD FORM OF THE NEW YORK BUILDING CONGRESS, EDITION OF 1929
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New York Building Congress Standard Specifications for MASONRY

PART B.

General Conditions.

1. GENERAL CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT of the American Institute of Architects, current edition, shall form a part of this Division together with the Special Conditions, to which this Contractor is referred. **General Conditions**

Arbitration Clause.

2. Any dispute or claim arising out of or relating to this Contract, or for the breach thereof, shall be settled by arbitration under the Rules of the Arbitration Court of the New York Building Congress or the American Arbitration Association and judgment upon an award may be entered in the court having jurisdiction. **Arbitration Clause**

XUM

N. Y. Building Congress Standard Specifications—MASONRY—*Continued.*

Scope.

Scope

3. The following requirements for Materials and Workmanship specify the required standards for all masonry work.
4. These requirements, however, form a part of the Contract only insofar as they describe items mentioned in Part A of this Division or as shown on the Contract drawings.
5. Except where otherwise definitely stated in Part A, this Contractor shall furnish, as part of this Contract, all scaffolding, hoisting and other equipment necessary for the performance of his work; also, when specified under Part A, this Contractor shall furnish to the Cut Stone Setting Contractor all materials required for setting, parging and pointing mortar in connection with Cut Stone and Manufactured Stone. (See Part A Specifications for Setting Granite, Cut Stone, Marble or Manufactured Stone, A.I.A. Division 8e and Part B Specifications for Masonry and Concrete Materials, A.I.A. Division 3 for requirements.)

Slots, Chases, Recesses, Etc.

Slots, Chases, Recesses, Etc.

6. This Contractor shall, as a part of his Contract, build all slots, chases, recesses or openings, required for the proper installation of the work of other trades, in the locations and to the dimensions indicated on the Contract drawings or in accordance with information furnished before the work, at the points affected, is laid out.
7. Subsequent cutting and fitting, due to incorrect or incomplete information, shall be executed by this Contractor, under written instructions from the Architect. Such work will be paid for as an addition to this Contract.

Building in Work.

Building in Work

8. This Contractor shall, as a part of his Contract, coöperate with the Contractors for Structural Steel, Architectural Iron and Bronze, Special Windows and Doors, Mechanical Trades, Rough and Finished Carpentry and other Contractors whose work is to be built into or set in conjunction with Masonry. All bedding required shall be executed by this Contractor, under the direction of the Contractor furnishing same.

Setting Cut Stone and Granite.

Setting Cut Stone and Granite

9. The furnishing and setting of Granite, Cut Stone, Marble and Manufactured Stone is included under another division. This Contractor, however, will be required to coöperate with the Contractor for that portion of the work and will be required to set and build in all sills, lintels and other detached granite, stone or marble occurring in walls faced with materials included in this Division.

Centers for Arches.

Centers for Arches

10. All arches, whether of common or face brick, are to be turned on centers. These centers will, unless otherwise definitely stated under Part A of this Division, be provided for under another division.

Materials.

Materials

11. Except as otherwise definitely specified herein all Masonry Materials shall conform to the requirements given under Part B Specifications for Masonry and Concrete Materials, A.I.A. Division 3.
12. Where, under Part A, the product of a particular manufacturer is called for, this shall be furnished. Where a manufacturer is not named, all materials, accepted for use on the work, shall be subject to the approval of the Architect where the Specifications so require.

Bricklaying

Bricklaying

13. All brick, except face brick, shall be thoroughly wet before laying, except in freezing weather. Common brick shall be laid with a shove joint in full beds and be thoroughly slushed up with mortar at every course. Face brick shall be laid on full beds and have vertical joints completely filled with mortar. Unless otherwise specified under Part A, all brick, both common and face work, shall be laid in cement mortar.
14. Firebrick shall be laid in fire clay, unless otherwise noted under Part A.
15. All brickwork shall be built plumb, square and true to the dimensions shown and in bond as hereinafter specified. Brickwork and stonework must be thoroughly bonded or anchored together.
16. All brickwork shall be built tightly against columns, floor slabs, or other structural parts. Around window and door frames brickwork shall be kept back a sufficient distance to permit a caulked joint.
17. Where structural steel columns are indicated on the drawings to be fireproofed with brickwork, the brick shall be built closely against all flanges and webs with all spaces between steel and brickwork filled solid with cement mortar.
18. Steel beams, girders, channels, angles and other structural members imbedded in masonry which are not indicated to be entirely fireproofed with concrete, hollow tile or other fireproofing material, shall be thoroughly "buttered" with not less than a one-half (½) inch coat of cement mortar.

N. Y. Building Congress Standard Specifications—MASONRY—*Continued.*

Height of Courses.

19. Common brick shall be laid with joints not exceeding one-half (½) inch thick. **Height of Courses**
20. Exterior and Interior face brick shall be laid with joints of thickness stated under Part A of this Division.

Bond.

21. Common brick shall be laid five stretcher courses to one header course. Face brick shall be laid in bond stated under Part A of this Division. Provision, satisfactory to the Architect, shall in all cases be made for the bonding of face brick to the backing. **Bond**

Backing Cut Stone and Granite.

22. Brick backing of Granite, Cut Stone, Marble or Manufactured Stone shall be level with each horizontal course of stonework for a width sufficient to provide a full bearing for the next course. Where it is possible to do this without reducing the joints in brickwork below one-fourth (¼) inch in thickness, split courses will not be permitted. The brick backing shall follow closely the setting of Granite, Cut Stone, Marble or Manufactured Stone. **Backing Cut Stone and Granite**

Pointing.

23. Joints of all exposed exterior or interior common brickwork shall be neatly struck, unless otherwise specified under Part A. **Pointing**
24. Joints of all face brickwork shall be finished as required under Part A of this Division.

Arches.

25. Arches of common brick will be required over all openings in common brickwork, except where steel or reinforced concrete lintels are called for. All such arches shall be rowlock arches, segmental in form. Generally, one rowlock will be required for each twenty (20) inches in width of opening or fraction thereof. Radius of arches shall be equal to the width of the opening. Where arches are required in facebrick work they shall be as indicated on the drawings or as described in Part A of this Division. **Arches**

Rough Stone Masonry.

26. Shall be of the kinds called for under Part A of this Division. Where it is desired to show a finished or exposed face the stone shall be of such shapes and sizes as will produce the finished result indicated on the drawings, or illustrated by photographs bound with Part A or to conform to an accepted sample of existing work. **Rough Stone Masonry**
27. Unless otherwise stated under Part A, all rough stone masonry shall be set with cement mortar. All of the work shall be built plumb and true to the dimensions given, all stones fully bedded with joints and interstices completely filled with mortar. Walls shall be thoroughly bonded with bond stones at frequent intervals. In walls two (2) feet or less in thickness the bond stones shall extend entirely through the walls.

Setting Concrete Blocks, Concrete Tile and Hollow Tile.

28. Where Concrete Blocks, Concrete Tile or Hollow Tiles are used for exterior or party wall or pier construction all blocks and tile shall be set in cement mortar. The work shall be built plumb and true to the given dimensions, with tile or blocks set to bond and breaking joints in all cases. Where blocks or tile are set with cells horizontal they shall be set in a full bed of mortar, not exceeding one-half (½) inch in thickness, with vertical joints buttered full on walls and webs; where set with cells vertical the bearing members shall be buttered and vertical joints slushed full of mortar. **Setting Concrete Blocks, Concrete Tile and Hollow Tile**
29. Where blocks or hollow tile are specified under Part A, as backing for brick, or other material, the facing material shall be securely bonded to the backing. Where the facing consists of common brick or face brick laid with headers, the headers shall be bonded into the backing every fifth course of brick. Where headers or other bonding units are not permitted in the facing material, approved metal ties or other means of bonding, satisfactory to the Architect shall be furnished as specified under Part A.

Partitions.

30. All hollow tile for partition work shall be set in cement and lime mortar. The tile shall be set to bond, breaking joints in all cases. Where tile are set with cells horizontal they shall be set on full mortar beds not exceeding one-half (½) inch in thickness with vertical joints buttered full on walls and webs. Where set with cells vertical the bearing members shall be buttered and vertical joints slushed full of mortar. **Partitions**
31. When tile partitions are shown intersecting or abutting each other, they shall be regularly bonded, avoiding all continuous perpendicular joints. Where partitions intersect or abutt walls they shall be securely anchored with approved metal ties or otherwise satisfactorily keyed. The tile shall be carefully fitted around all door and window openings.
32. Where double partitions are indicated on drawings they shall be bonded together with cross walls of same material, spaced not more than ten (10) feet apart.

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N. Y. Building Congress Standard Specifications—MASONRY—*Continued.*

33. Partitions shall rest on the floor arches, concrete fill or finished floor surfaces as noted under Part A and shall be tightly wedged against the arches or floor slabs above. Wedging shall be done with tile or slate wedges.

Furring.

Furring

34. Free standing tile furring shall in no case be less than three (3) inches in thickness.

35. All furring less than three (3) inches in thickness shall be securely anchored to masonry walls with approved metal anchors.

Floor Arches.

Floor Arches

36. Where hollow tile floor arches are called for they shall consist of side or end construction as stated under Part A and of the depths indicated on the drawings. Where the local Building Code specifies a minimum thickness for walls and webs of floor arch blocks such requirements shall be followed.

37. Skewbacks shall be carefully bedded in place against beams, using cement mortar.

Beam and Girder Fireproofing.

Beam and Girder Fireproofing

38. Where hollow tile beam and girder fireproofing is called for it shall consist of stock or special shapes necessary to fit the contour of the steel sections and provide the degree of fireproofing required by the local Building Code.

39. Soffit protection for beams and girders shall be secured in place with metal clips or other device approved by the Architect.

Column Covering.

Column Covering

40. Where hollow tile column covering is called for it shall be of thickness given under Part A or indicated on the Contract drawings. On exterior columns the tile shall be built as close as possible to the steel on both flanges and webs and have all space between tile and steel filled in solid with mortar or grout. Covering for interior columns shall be built close to the outer faces of the columns but space between tile and steel need not be filled unless so specified under Part A.

41. Column covering shall start on the top of the floor arches or slabs and be carried up to and be tightly wedged under the soffit of arches or slabs and beams above. Each course of tile shall be set breaking joint with the one below.

42. No piping shall be enclosed in the column covering, except electric or other conduits, which shall be erected before the column covering is set.

Gypsum Blocks.

Gypsum Blocks

43. Where Gypsum Blocks are specified they shall be set in mortar composed of gypsum and sand. The requirements in regard to bedding, joints, bonding, wedging and anchoring specified for hollow tile shall also govern the use of Gypsum Blocks.

Gene.al for all Masonry.

General for all Masonry

44. In warm weather, all bricks shall be thoroughly wet before laying. Neither bricks, blocks nor tile shall be set when the temperature is below twenty (20) degrees Fahrenheit without the Architect's permission. When permission is given it will be on the understanding that this Contractor provides a satisfactory method of heating materials before setting and protection of finished work against freezing.

Patching.

Patching

45. If, during construction, walls, partitions, or arches become displaced or damaged by this Contractor, or others under his control, this Contractor shall, without additional compensation, execute all patching and repairing necessary to leave the entire work in perfect condition.

46. Walls, partitions or arches displaced or damaged by Contractors over whom this Contractor has no control, shall be replaced or repaired by this Contractor under written instructions from the Architect. Such work will be paid for as an addition to this Contract.

Protection of Masonry.

Protection of Masonry

47. All cut stone and other work must be properly protected by this Contractor during the cleaning of the brickwork. Any stone discolored or stained on account of not being properly protected must be made good by this Contractor as a part of his Contract.

Cleaning.

Cleaning

48. Where so specified under Part A, all walls of common brick exposed on the exterior or forming finished interior surfaces shall be cleaned at the completion of the building.

49. All face brick at final completion, or when so directed by the Architect, shall be washed down, cleaned and pointed.

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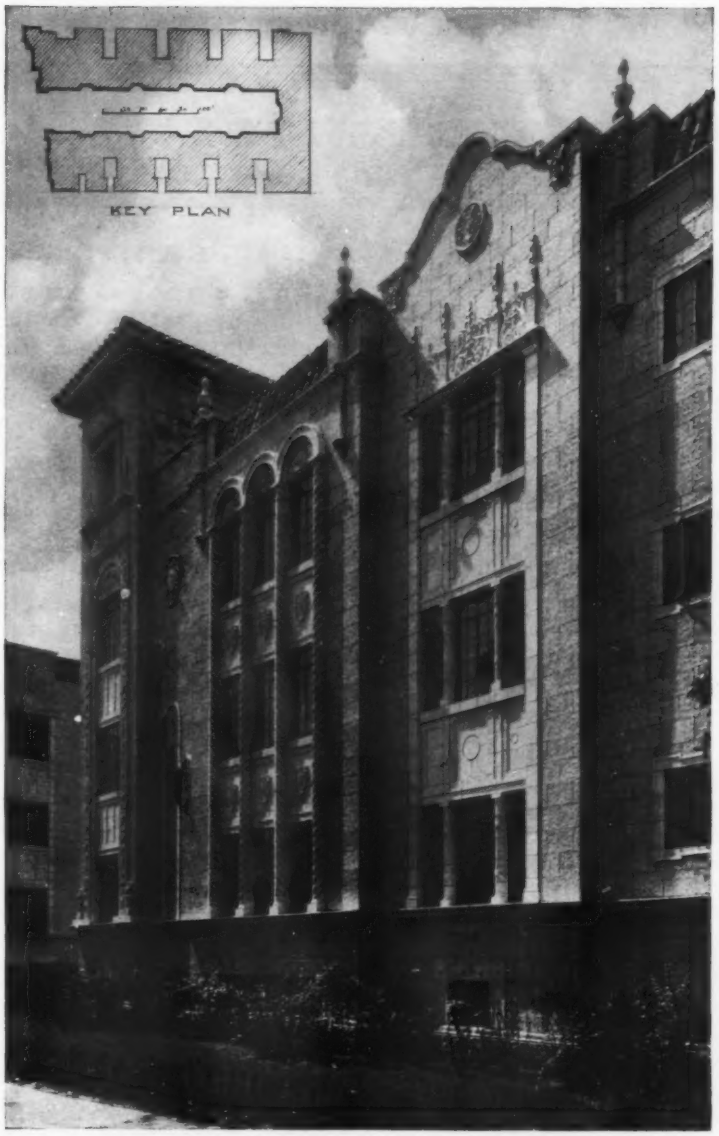

NORTHWESTERN TERRA COTTA

used from sidewalk to skyline in facade of these distinguished apartments, Ridge Avenue, Chicago. Capraro & Komar, Architects. Key plan shows extent, terra cotta facing. The ashlar, of rugged texture, is light, grey-green color in mottled finish. Base emerald green; tower panels variegated. Window, and other trim, of ivory color, mottled finish, smooth texture. Unusual demand for space, these buildings, is due to brightness and charm of architectural treatment—rich in color, unique in texture, permanent in beauty.

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CURRENT NEWS

SETTING AND HARDENING IN PORTLAND CEMENT

PAPER No. 17 of the Portland Cement Association Fellowship at the National Bureau of Standards has recently come to our desk. It is a digest of the literature on the nature of the setting and hardening processes in portland cement, by R. H. Bogue. The purpose of the paper is "to set forth in a rational manner and in proper perspective the more significant contributions that have determined opinion on the nature of the processes which result in the setting and hardening of portland cement." Copies may be obtained on application to R. H. Bogue, Research Director, Portland Cement Association Fellowship, Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C.

BUILDING CODE AND PLUMBING CODE TABULATION

THE Division of Building and Housing of the Department of Commerce has compiled a booklet from the answers to questionnaires sent to Building Inspectors, City Clerks and others whose information could be regarded as authentic, on the status of building and plumbing codes in cities of more than 10,000 population. The information given includes the dates of codes now in use, whether printed together or separately, by what agency the plumbing code is enforced, whether the building code is being revised, and the number of persons in building, plumbing and electrical departments. The list will be revised as it becomes necessary in order to make it of real value. Copies may be procured on request from The Division of Building and Housing, Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C.

SIMPLIFIED PRACTICE RECOMMENDATION

SIMPLIFIED Practice Recommendation R83-28 for "Kalamein Single-acting Swing Doors, Frames, and Trim" has recently been published by the Bureau of Standards of the Department of Commerce. The recommendation includes standardizations for four sizes of stock doors and five of semi-stock doors, with other details of description. In the booklet also is a list of manufacturers who have thus far accepted the standardization. Copies may be secured for five cents each by writing to the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

PRESENT HOME FINANCING METHODS

MANY families each year who undertake buying or building homes of their own find financing the most difficult problem, according to the Division of Building and Housing of the Department of Commerce, which has just issued the booklet, "Present Home Financing Methods." This booklet, which has been prepared with the cooperation of leading home financing agencies, is written to assist home buyers and home builders who have to borrow, and also for persons and organizations interested in improving local home financing facilities. Choosing a helpful home financing agency and a good plan of financing may save a family from much unnecessary expense, or even determine the success of the undertaking. In order to avoid costly mistakes a family, particularly if it has to borrow more than can be obtained on a first mortgage, needs to know something about the sources of home loans, and the types of services furnished by the agencies supplying them. "Present Home Financing Methods" describes the service rendered by building and loan associations, life insurance companies, savings banks, trust companies and other agencies which lend to home seekers, and also takes up second and third mortgages and the land contract method of purchase. It points out various pitfalls to be avoided, and gives much practical information, such as suggestions for use in applying loans. The appendix of the booklet explains in simple terms how answers to various other problems may be found by prospective borrowers who wish to compare different loan plans available to them.

BUREAU OF STANDARDS REPORT

THE annual report of the Director of the Bureau of Standards for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, has recently been published. It is a report of all branches of the work of the Bureau, and includes paragraphs on General Activities, Salaries, General Expenses, and thirty or more such topics as Radio Research, Investigation of Fire-resisting Properties, Utilization of Waste Products from the Land and Power-plant Equipment, and concludes with two pages of general recommendations. A copy of the report may be obtained for five cents from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

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BY the addition of a line of slag or gravel surfaced roofings to their well known smooth surfaced Asbestos built-up roofings, Johns-Manville Corporation is now in a position to offer to Architects and Contractors built-up roofings suitable to any type of building and to any condition.

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Architects are urged to avail themselves of the free services of Johns-Manville Architects' Service Section for consultation and assistance on all roofing problems. This service is offered to any who are using or considering the use of any Johns-Manville product.

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COMMUNICATION RELATIVE TO THE N. Y. BUILDING CONGRESS SPECIFICATIONS

Editors, The American Architect
New York, N. Y.
Gentlemen:

The Standards Committee of the New York Building Congress are deeply gratified at the receipt of a communication from Mr. William A. Delano, President of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, advising of the acceptance, by the Chapter at its meeting on January 8th last, of the report of its Committee, appointed by Mr. H. Van Buren Magonigle, when President, to consider the Standard Specifications prepared by the Congress. Mr. Delano writes that:

> "The Committee of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, to whom the matter of the Standard Specifications of the New York Building Congress was referred, has gone over these specifications with a fine-tooth comb and finds them an admirable piece of work. This Committee recommends that every architect acquire a copy of these specifications because they will act as a guide toward clearer specification writing."

The members of the Committee of the American Institute of Architects are: John M. Montfort, Chairman, Office of Messrs. Buchman & Kahn; Bevan Jones, Office of Messrs. Voorhees, Gmelin & Walker; John A. Wetzel, Office of John Russell Pope; Frank W. Reynolds, Office of Thos. E. Murray, Inc.

The authorities are now complete. Standard Specifications are prepared and issued by the New York Building Congress; they are approved by Trade Boards where such exist in an industry; they are recommended for use by the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. In printed form the Standard Specifications can be used as contract documents, as are the documents of the American Institute of Architects.

WILLIAM ARTHUR PAYNE
Chairman, Standards Committee
New York Building Congress

INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR WINDOW SILLS

EVERY so often some one prepares an informative booklet on building materials or equipment that is worth filing because of its practical value and the data it contains for the drafting room or specification writer. One of these prepared by the Structural Service Bureau for the Structural Slate Company has just come to our attention. It is entitled "Window Sills, Interior and Exterior." The text and illustrations will be found particularly valuable in connection with the use of slate for window sills. D. Knickerbacker Boyd of Philadelphia, consulting architect for the Bureau, wrote the introduction and, from the practical nature of the booklet, evidently directed or strongly influenced its preparation. In addition to detail drawings there is found a chapter on "Installation Data and Methods, Including Specifications." The chapter on slate finishes, illustrated with close-up detail photographs, should be found especially valuable. The booklet is 8½ x 11 inches in size, and contains 32 pages. Copies may be obtained through THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT Service Department.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS' EXHIBITION

A NOTICE has been received, announcing that the Sixth Annual Exhibition of the New York Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects will open at the Arden Gallery, 460 Park Avenue, New York, on Monday, March 11th, 1929, and is scheduled to run approximately six weeks thereafter. THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT will publish a review of this exhibit in a forthcoming issue.

CORRECTIONS

IN the February 5, 1929, issue of THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT, we regret to say, there was an unusual number of mistakes, for which we ask our readers' kind indulgence. There were three omissions.

It should have been noted, with the names of Strickland, Blodget & Law, architects, that Dana B. Somes was associate architect of the Ashburton Apartments, Boston, Mass., featured on pages 151 and 152.

On page 173, where we showed the Main Lobby of the Shelball Apartments, Kew Gardens, N. Y. —Seelig and Finkelstein, architects—we should have included the name of Weinold Reiss, designer of interior architecture.

Credit should have been given John M. Howells and Raymond M. Hood, associated architects, on pages 176 and 177 devoted to the Apartment House at 3 East 84th Street, New York City. Only the name of Raymond M. Hood was mentioned.

WINTER CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN ISSUED

THE Philadelphia Building Congress has issued a bulletin that is convincing in pictures as well as text that the Winter Construction idea is well beyond a theoretical status. The title of the bulletin is "Year-round Construction Facts." The illustrations used are reproductions of buildings under construction in Philadelphia and its vicinity during the winter seasons of 1927 and 1928. Statistics are included giving the dates when the photographs were taken and the number of craftsmen then employed on the work. Arguments are also presented for the more extended practice of continuing construction work throughout the year to minimize unemployment and stabilize conditions in the industry. The Committee on Year-round Construction of the Philadelphia Building Congress is to be congratulated on the convincing manner in which it has presented the facts relating to this.

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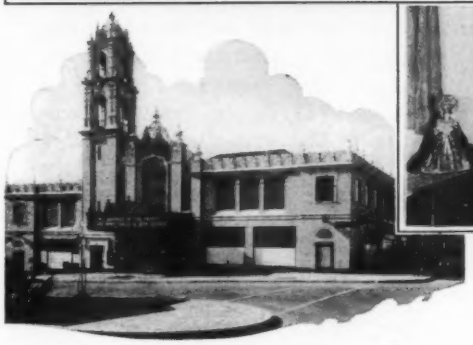
for Interior Beauty *and* Acoustical Effects *in the* Plaza Theater, Kansas City



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INDIANAPOLIS AGREEMENT FOR APPRENTICES IN THE CARPENTRY TRADE

A BULLETIN recently released by the Indianapolis Building Congress announces that a Joint Committee on Apprenticeship Training in the Carpentry Trade has been organized. The Committee consists of three representatives of the employers of the carpentry trade and three representatives of the labor union. Harry E. Wood, Director of Vocational Education and Manual Training in the Indianapolis schools, is also a member of the Committee.

The Committee has had several meetings and adopted an agreement governing apprentices in the trade which has been officially approved by the Carpenters' District Council and the Associated General Contractors' Association of Indianapolis. This agreement provides for a four-year period of apprenticeship with a wage increase every six months; continuous employment of the apprentice and compulsory school attendance of two evenings a week; and a minimum and maximum age limit of seventeen to twenty-two years. The full term of apprenticeship is divided into eight periods of six months each, and the apprentice will receive his advanced rating upon the satisfactory completion of each period. At the successful completion of four terms of apprenticeship and school training apprentices will receive diplomas from the Indianapolis Building Congress at graduation exercises conducted by the Congress, the Board of Education and the Joint Committee, and will then become journeymen.

The action of the Indianapolis Building Congress in developing an apprenticeship system is commendable, for the future of building construction is largely dependent upon the training of men competent to carry on the work of the various trades.

TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP ANNOUNCED FOR UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN GRADUATES

GRADUATES of the College of Architecture of the University of Michigan, not over thirty years of age on the opening day of the competition, are invited to take part in the annual competition for the George G. Booth Traveling Fellowship in Architecture, which will be held during the two weeks beginning April 6th, 1929. The stipend is twelve hundred dollars.

Competitors may make their drawings at their present place of residence. Those intending to compete are asked to write as soon as possible to Professor Emil Lorch, College of Architecture, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

PRINCETON ANNOUNCES COMPETITION FOR DRAUGHTSMEN

TWO competitive prizes of eight hundred dollars each, in the School of Architecture, Princeton University, Princeton, N. J., are announced for the year 1929-1930. The prizes will be awarded to the winners of a competition in design to be held from May 20th to May 31st, 1929.

The purpose of these prizes is to place at the disposal of experienced draughtsmen of unusual ability an opportunity to complete their professional training by contact with the academic side of architecture, and the advantages to be had in the School of Architecture, the Department of Art and Archaeology, and the Graduate School, of Princeton University. The winners are exempt from tuition fees. This is the sixth year the prizes are given.

The competition is open only to men, unmarried, who are citizens of the United States and not under twenty-one or over thirty years of age on September 1st, 1929, and who will have been employed as draughtsmen in architects' offices for not less than three years. Applications must be filed on or before April 17th, 1929. Application blanks and regulations governing the competition and award may be obtained on request from the Director, the School of Architecture, Princeton University, Princeton, N. J.

ON GOING TO ITALY

PAUL VALENTI, R.A.B.A., of the Washington University (St. Louis, Mo.) School of Architecture, will conduct a travel group on a visit to Italy, "for pleasure and cultural purposes."

Professor Valenti, largely as a result of long residence and study in Italy and because of professional connections there, is thoroughly familiar with the country generally and in particular with those innumerable objects of interest which Italy offers to connoisseurs and art lovers. Authorized by the Italian Government, which will coöperate to the end that American visitors in this group may profit in the highest degree, this trip presents many advantages, from the standpoint of education and economy, for those who desire to escape the standardized commercial tour. An extension of this trip through Western Europe has been arranged.

The sailing date is June 22nd, 1929, and the return is scheduled for September 16th. Those interested are advised to communicate with Prof. Paul Valenti, Department of Architecture, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo., for all particulars concerning itinerary options, fares and ships.

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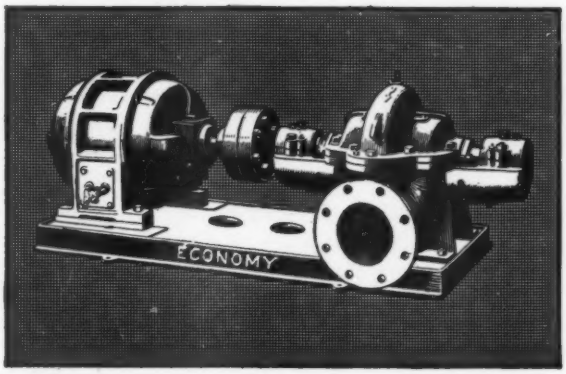

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PERSONALS

William C. Halbert, Jr., architect, announces that his office is now located at 202 North Avenue, New Rochelle, N. Y., instead of his former address at 11 North Avenue.

Howard Greenley, architect, of 129 East 54th Street, New York City, has virtually retired from active practice in architecture, and has requested manufacturers to remove his name from their lists.

Ernest G. Southey, architect, has moved his office from 983 Broad Street, Bridgeport, Conn., to The City National Bank and Trust Company Building, 955 Main Street (Room 906), Bridgeport, Conn.

Harold R. Smith, architect, announces the continuance of the office of T. MacLaren under the name of Harold R. Smith, successor to T. MacLaren, 320 Colorado Springs National Bank Building, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

On January 1st, 1929, Oren Thomas joined the firm of Proudfoot, Rawson & Souers. The new firm name is Proudfoot, Rawson, Souers & Thomas, and offices are located at 810 Hubbell Building, Des Moines, Iowa.

M. C. Parker, architect, announces that he has moved his office from 216 Hill Building, Santa Ana, Calif., to Room 15, First National Bank Building, Roswell, New Mexico, and would appreciate having manufacturers' catalogues and so forth addressed accordingly.

Thomas E. Murray, Inc., Designing and Consulting Engineers on power plant and industrial buildings, announce the removal of their New York offices from 55 Duane Street to 88 Lexington Avenue. They also announce the opening of a Detroit (Mich.) office in the Eaton Tower Building.

Horace W. Peaslee, architect, located at 1228 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C., announces that both Miss Gertrude Sawyer, graduate of the University of Illinois and the Cambridge School of Architecture, and Joe Harry Lapish, graduate of George Washington University and Ecole des Beaux Arts, Fontainebleau, have become affiliated with him for the practice of architecture.

A LETTER

The Editor
The American Architect
My dear Sir:

My attention has been called to an article in your issue of December 20th, entitled "The Opportunity of the Architect."

I think this article comes at a time when many architects realize that functions they exerted in the past are being taken away from them and their position is becoming secondary in building operations. This article points one way in which the architect can increase his service to the community and, after all, it is only by thus increasing his ability to render service that he can advance his own position.

I can see great possibilities unfolding through a series of articles directed to this end and a great service rendered to the architectural profession.

The architect himself is not very readily responsive to efforts in his behalf. He is a high individualist. Nevertheless, I, for one, welcome such discussion and would be glad to see it continued and specific comments pointed out by which the architects could work together to advance their standing and serve the communities.

Yours very truly,
PERRY R. MACNEILLE.

New York.

CHICAGO ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS ELECTS OFFICERS

THE Chicago Association of Consulting Engineers, of 104 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, at their Ninth Annual Meeting held January 21st, elected officers for the ensuing year as follows: Ernest V. Lippe, President; Rollo E. Gilmore, Vice-President; and H. L. Clute, Secretary-Treasurer. The retiring president was Irving E. Brooke. The Association consists of professional engineers engaged in mechanical, electrical and sanitary engineering who are not connected with the sale of equipment or apparatus.

CITY PLANNING ENABLING ACT

A STANDARD City Planning Enabling Act has recently been prepared by the Advisory Committee on City Planning and Zoning of the United States Department of Commerce. It contains a foreword by Herbert Hoover, recommending the act to cities and towns, and briefly indicating its value; a general statement of the need for such an act, with an explanation of its purpose; and provisions for municipal planning and planning commissions, subdivision control, buildings in mapped streets, and regional planning and planning commissions. Copies of the act may be secured for fifteen cents each from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

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ENGLISH houses, old and modern, possess a quality that is decidedly domestic and full of inspiration to architectural designers. Our readers, whose practice is largely devoted to the designing of houses, will find Melvin Spalding's article, "Are We Losing Our Early English Precedents?" which is published in this issue, of particular interest. These same readers will no doubt also find much of value in the illustrations of a group of houses at Columbus, Ohio, designed by R. G. Hanford, which also appear in this issue. ॐ ॐ ॐ The annual exhibitions of the New York Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects become of greater importance each year. An advance review of the sixth annual exhibition of the society, which opens March 11, 1929, is published in this issue. This exhibition, held at the Arden Galleries, will be open for several months. ॐ ॐ ॐ Another exhibition that attracts much attention is that of the annual Industrial Arts at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City. The 1929 exhibition has been assembled as a series of rooms or booths, each under the direction of an architect, with several individual collaborators. Illustrations from this exhibition will also be found in this issue. ॐ ॐ ॐ The 1929 program of the Hollow Metal industry, now in effect, is indicative of the commendable attitude of manufacturers to coördinate their efforts to expedite construction work. The important features of this program, as it may affect plans and specifications, will be found in the engineering and construction department of the current issue. ॐ ॐ ॐ As we go to press we learn that the New York Life Insurance Company Building, Cass Gilbert, Inc., Architects, has been awarded by the Fifth Avenue Association the Gold Medal for new buildings constructed in New York's Fifth Avenue section in 1928. A full presentation of the New York Life Insurance Company Building will be made in our issue of March 20, 1929.

March 5, 1929 *The Publishers*

Photo by Gass

HUTCHINSON RIVER PARKWAY. WESTCHESTER COUNTY PARK SYSTEM
NEW YORK

GILMORE D. CLARKE, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT
March 5, 1929

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